

Hafa Adai!

May FAC at status quo. **PAGE 2**

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## Same-day vaccinations now open

By JUSTINE NAUTA  
justine\_nauta@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. will now be accepting same-day vaccinations for COVID-19 at the Medical Care and Treatment Site at the upper parking level of the Commonwealth Health Center and at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

This means those who want same day. But first, they must to be vaccinated can now register and be vaccinated on the

See **VACCINATION**  
on **Page 4**



### YOUTH CONFERENCE

A presenter talks to middle school students about additional healthcare resources at the "Chasing Wellness: Navigating Health Services for Teens" booth during the Middle School Youth Conference yesterday at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Hibiscus Hall. Originally a one-day event that happens at the beginning of the school year, the PSS Annual Youth Festival this year is split into a Middle School Youth Conference yesterday, April 29, and a High School Youth Conference today.

Story on **Page 7**

## 'It's petty politics'

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE  
fergie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Torres-Palacios administration will continue to focus on COVID-19 pandemic policy that protects people over politics that drives the

community apart, according to press secretary Kevin Bautista yesterday, in reaction to a concern that



Bautista

See **POLITICS** on **Page 4**

## Lawyer slapped with a six-month prison term

By JUSTINE NAUTA  
justine\_nauta@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Lawyer David George Banes, who pleaded guilty to reckless driving, has been sentenced to six months in prison but much of that sentence is suspended.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo handed down a six-

See **LAWYER** on **Page 4**



Banes

## Together, we can practice the 3Rs to minimize waste

### TOGETHER, WE CAN

By MIKE SABLAN  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Mike Sablan is vice president of Triple J Enterprises, Inc. and chairperson of the Domestic Policy and Recovery Committee of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers. As an advisory council for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, the GCEA's mission is to improve the quality of life in the CNMI for all residents.



As we continue our discussion about universal garbage collection, we should understand how the Marpi Landfill plays a role in this process. The Marpi Landfill is a 26-acre waste management facility with six cells of two and a half million cubic yards of airspace. A cell is where the trash is stored by compressing the garbage, while airspace pertains to the disposal capacity of the cell. The landfill began operating in 2003, and the dis-



See **TOGETHER** on **Page 4**

### AT A GLANCE

As of 7pm, April 29, 2021

#### VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	19,025
Fully Vaccinated:	16,119
Moderna	
Initiated:	2,994
Fully Vaccinated:	2,318
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	49

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	7,951	8	7,959
Recovered	7,739	0	7,739
Active	72	8	80
Deaths	136	0	136
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	153,571		

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	164	0	164
Traced via Travel Screening	128	0	128
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	26,131*		
Days since last community transmission	43		

\*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

### COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

#### LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

### INSIDE



#### BUSINESS

First Hawaiian Bank announces the launch of its new mobile banking app.

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#### ASIA

India's deaths officially surge past 200,000, but the true death toll is believed to be far higher.

**PAGE 15**



#### OFF THE WALL

A piece of copper that was struck by the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia in 1794 sells for \$840,000.

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## Local

## May FAC at status quo

The Fuel Adjustment Charge of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. remains at \$0.17341 per kWh for the month of May.

Although there has been a slight decrease in the Mean of Platts Singapore monthly pricing from April 2021 to May 2021 as notified by Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc., the decrease did not equal or exceed a 4.5% differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel.

The FAC is one of two components that make up the CUC electric kWh rate, which is used to purchase fuel. The second component is the CUC base rate, which is used to fund operations, projects, and debt service. This base rate has not been increased since April 17, 2014.

CUC is required, pursuant to an order previously issued by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, to adjust (up or down) the FAC pass-through rate when the Mean of Platts Singapore monthly pricing equals or exceeds a 4.5% differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel used in the calculation of the current FAC rate.

CUC first instituted the Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause in 2009 to recover fuel and fuel related costs, a system also used by power providers in Guam and the Virgin Islands. In May 2015, the CPUC authorized CUC to change the name of LEAC to FAC to provide customers a more accurate description of the electric rate. (PR)

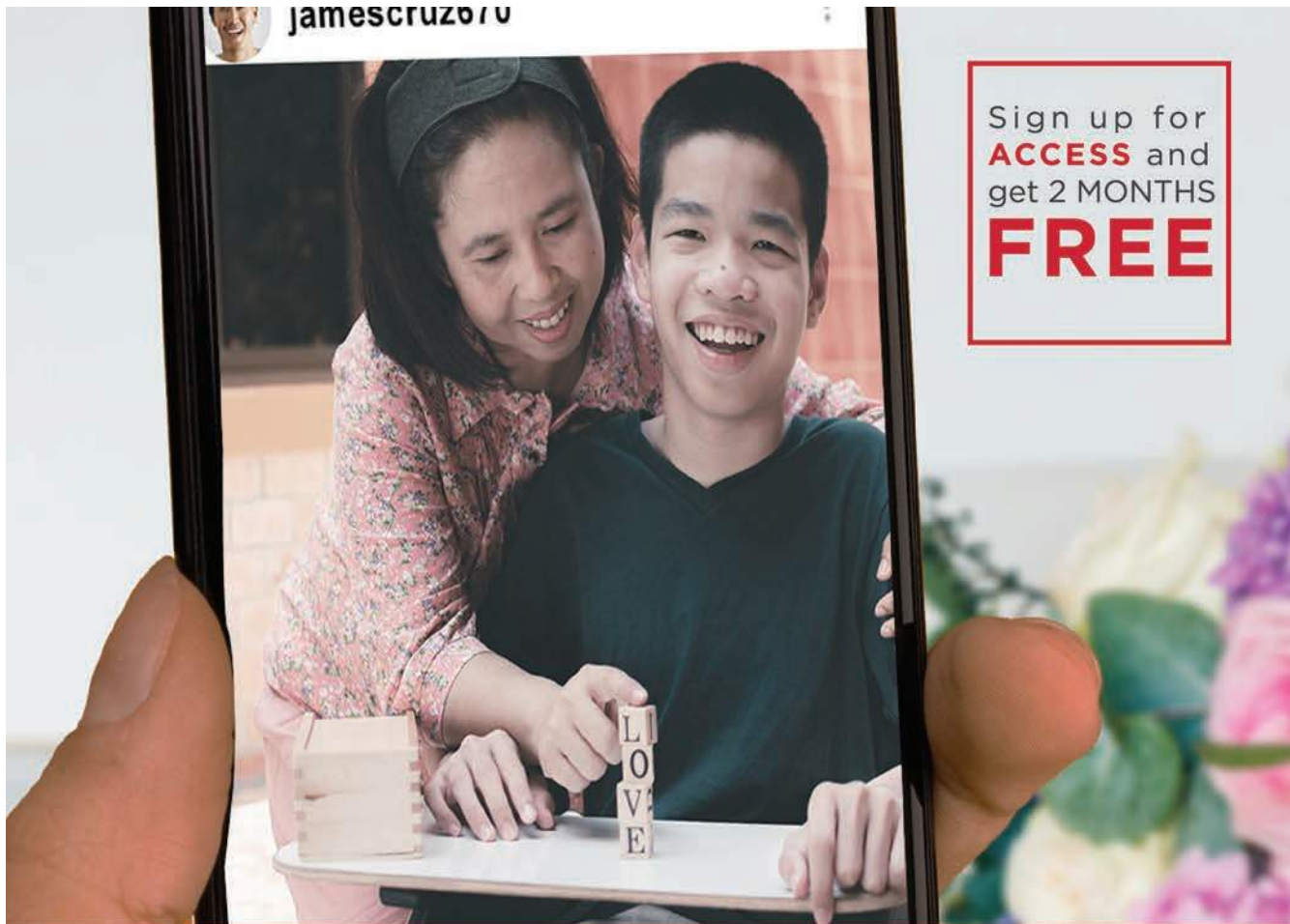
## Public warned of high surf today

A high surf advisory remains in effect until 6am today, Friday.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, large breaking waves of 7 to 9 feet and dangerous rip currents

are present along north facing reefs until 6am today.

Large breaking waves can knock you down and cause serious injuries. Strong rip currents can drag you out to sea. Residents of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are advised to avoid venturing near reef lines facing north. Rip currents will be life-threatening. (PR)



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## 'Hate crime bill not called for in the CNMI'

A hate crime bill is not called for in the CNMI, according to Chief Public Defender Douglas W. Hartig, but if one were to be enacted, he suggests it should be clear and closely crafted to address perceived problems in the CNMI. Hartig recommends looking at California for guidance and clarity.

Hartig stated this opinion in a March 30, 2021, letter to Rep. Donald Manglona (Ind-Rota), who is the author of House Bill 22-18, or the Hate Crimes Act of 2021. Ten other House lawmakers are co-authors of the legislation. The bill is currently with the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations chaired by Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan).

H.B. 22-18 will amend Division 4 of Title 6 of the Commonwealth Code relating to disposition of offenders and sentencing to provide criteria for imposition of enhanced sentencing of defendants for crimes motivated by hate. Manglona stated in the bill that criminal acts borne of hate have become more pervasive and widespread throughout the CNMI and that the CNMI joins a minority of states and territories (Arkansas, Wyoming, South Carolina, American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) that have yet to enact meaningful legislation to regulate hate-based crimes. Manglona said it's time for the Commonwealth to join the majority of states that have passed reform legislation regulating hate-based criminal acts.

In his opposition to the bill, Hartig described the bill as "unclear" and that there is a better way to address the concerns of this legislation, but that doubling the sentence is not an answer.

One possibility, Hartig said is to codify racial or ethnicity hatred as a sentencing factor a judge should consider at sentencing.

Hartig said the National Institute of Justice has found that increased punishments do not deter crime, and that many studies have come to the same conclusion. "Tough on crime bills are often popular but rarely effective," he said.

Hartig noted that states are repealing things like mandatory minimum sentences, long sentences and the death penalty as

they learn these are ineffective in addressing criminal behavior. "They can also be unfairly applied, in this situation perhaps to mentally unstable people who need treatment and counseling rather than an extended prison sentence," he said.

Hartig said H.B. 22-18 in many instances doubles the potential punishment of the underlying offense. "Doubling the potential sentence is extremely harsh," he said.

Hartig said admittedly not likely, there may even be an argument that such a disparity between the underlying sentence and this enhanced sentence is an unconstitutional Eighth Amendment violation.

He said this bill goes beyond enhancement of other states. He pointed out that two larger states with hate crime legislation, California and Texas, do not categorically double the sentencing rate for all hate crimes.

"Unsurprisingly, Texas, by way of example, is harsher than other states but still not as harsh as the proposed act," he said.

Hartig said California only adds up to 1 to 3 years maximum for felonies (or 4 if a conspiracy is also proved).

In contrast, he said, H.B. 22-18 applies to misdemeanors and can add a decade to a felony.

The chief public defender pointed out that the CNMI criminal statutes already have severe sentence ranges for the underlying offenses.

He said a hate crime bill should clearly state that the trier of fact (jury or judge) must find beyond a reasonable doubt that the acts alleged are in fact hate crimes. "This bill does not say," he said.

In California a jury must decide the issue as a separate charge. In this bill, Hartig said, it's not clearly stated. "It should be that the finder of facts has to find the elements of the hate crime allegation beyond a reasonable doubt, and only then can the judge consider the additional sentencing range afforded by this statute," Hartig said.

He said an accused person should be able to raise defenses to his enhancement which an accused person is entitled to do for all other elements of a charged crime. "This bill is unclear," he noted.

Hartig said the "findings" at the beginning of this bill that says "criminal acts borne of hate have become more pervasive and widespread throughout the CNMI." He said there is no data given to show this.

Based on extensive experience in the criminal justice in the CNMI, this does not seem correct, Hartig said. "Without statistics to back up this assertion, we should not assume this statement is true," he said, adding that without needed evidence, there is no showing of a need or justification for this bill.

An issue not addressed in this proposed legislation is the mental health of anyone committing a hate crime. Hartig said the American Psychological Association found that offenders of alleged hate crimes may feel that their livelihood or way of life is threatened by demographic changes. He said offenders may not be motivated by hate, but rather by fear, ignorance, or anger.

"A potential offender does not say to themselves before committing an assault that I will slap this person if I only go to jail for a year, but will not if I may go to jail for two years," he said.

In other words, Hartig said, an increase in the severity of the punishment is rarely a deterrent. *(Ferdie De La Torre)*

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# Emergency water service interruptions today

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the public that there will be an emergency water ser-

vice interruption today, April 30, 2021, from 8:30am to 4:30pm for the areas of Airport Road, Chalan Monsignor Mar-

tinez Road, from the Saipan International School intersection to the ABCD Market in Koblerville and Tottotville.

The water outage is due to the isolation of a 6-inch transmission line for emergency repair. The waterline leak is located on Exploring Drive in Airport Road Dandan. Water service to the affected areas will resume soon

after the repairs.

For the safety of the men and women at the jobsite, CUC advises the general public to exercise caution or take alternative routes when traveling through the area. **(PR)**



## ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY

Jeff Cruz, second right, a food and beverage supervisor at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, and his daughter, Jenevieve Cruz, administrative assistant at Kagman High School, are congratulated by Board of Education chair Andrew L. Orsini, right, and vice chair Herman Atalig, left, during last week's Administrative Professionals Day celebration.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CNMI PSS 2021 State Administrative Support staff Donald San Nicolas of San Vicente Elementary School is flanked by Board of Education vice chair Herman Atalig and BOE chair Andrew L. Orsini.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## VACCINATION

From Page 1

register online at [vaccinatecnmi.com](http://vaccinatecnmi.com) or by calling (670) 682-7468 to reserve their spot instantly. It used to take several days before one can get a slot to be vaccinated.

CHCC is currently offering the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine and the Moderna Inc. COVID-19 vaccine for those who are 16 years old and above, and the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine for the elderly population.

Both Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines require two shots to be considered complete. CHCC has already given the first shots to 22,019 people as of April 29 and has

fully vaccinated 18,486 people. This means 49% of the CNMI is now fully vaccinated.

This also means that the CNMI is more than halfway to achieving the 80% target to achieve herd immunity. The CNMI is projected to reach the 80% herd immunity by mid-June, according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

Her immunity is when a large enough number of a population is already vaccinated and thus providing some indirect protection to the unvaccinated ones.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the CNMI is looking at mid-June as the "realistic" date to reopen its borders to tourists. Torres earlier disclosed that they are eyeing reopening either in May or June because they want to have at least 80%

of the community already vaccinated against COVID-19.

Torres along with CHCC and the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force said realistically mid-June is their target. Mid-May is also projected when the CNMI will reach 80% because they do have an airline that's "anxious for the CNMI to reopen immediately."

"We are looking into what is the herd immunity percentage by then. But June is most likely that we are looking at," said Torres.

Torres said they have a task force under the Governor's Economic Council of Advisers for air transportation and it has already received some feelers from some airlines in South Korea that they are now working on.

## POLITICS

From Page 1

Rep. Sheila Babauta (D-Saipan) had raised about the CNMI's year-long state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The CNMI Democratic [Party's] response a whole year later after protecting our community is questionable and is driven by petty politics," said Bautista.

At a House session last Friday, Babauta said she finds it "very concerning" that the executive order declaring a state of emergency in the CNMI has been renewed monthly for over a year now, particularly since this grants the Finance secretary unlimited reprogramming authority.

Bautista said the last time they checked, the CNMI and the whole country are in a public health emergency as COVID-19 hasn't fully disappeared.

Bautista said the reprogramming authority was critical in keeping the CNMI safe from the pandemic by prioritizing funding and resources that are for critical services such as quarantine, testing, and acquir-

ing personal protective equipment for healthcare workers and first responders.

At the same time, he said, the CNMI was able to keep basic public services afloat in order to support the ongoing COVID-19 operation.

"This is proper policy to protect our community," he said.

At the same House session Friday, Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) said this renewal of emergency declaration is a serious matter for the Legislature to discuss.

Sablan thanked House Ways and Means chair Rep. Donald Manglona (Ind-Rota) for expediting the review of the continuing state of emergency and state of unlimited reprogramming power.

She said it is important to get the legal research done as to the constitutionality and the options that the Legislature may have in modifying and rejecting the executive order.

Sablan said she would also like that the House's legal counsel also look into not only the constitutionality but also the possibility of violation of the current fiscal year Budget Act, Public Law 21-25. "Members as you may recall, those of you were here

the 21<sup>st</sup> Legislature, unlimited reprogramming power was granted to the governor in the Budget Act for fiscal year 2021 but solely within the Executive Branch," she said.

Sablan said the intent of the Legislature was at the time to restrict the ability to access the funds of the Legislature, of the Judiciary, and of the autonomous agencies.

"These continuing orders over a year now appear to violate that limitation that the Legislature explicitly set forth," she pointed out. "The state of emergency doesn't mean that we are in a state of dictatorship. We still have separation of powers. We still have three co-equal branches of government."

Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) said there is no language in the Constitution that the Finance secretary has reprogramming authority. She said the governor has that authority but there is no language in the Constitution that Torres can delegate that power to anybody.

Torres first declared the state of public health emergency and continued significant emergency in January 2020 in a move to prevent and contain COVID-19 from spreading all over the islands.

## TOGETHER

From Page 1

posal rate, or the amount of garbage dumped at the facility, was considerably low for the first two years.

However, a 2019 feasibility study from GHD and Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc. reported the alarmingly high consumption of airspace and disposal rate at the landfill in the last 10 years. They disclosed that 28% of the facility's airspace has been exhausted as of February 2019, and Cells 1 and 2's lifespan was approximately six years, down to about four years by now. That would make it around 2025. A news report in 2018 indicated Cell 1, which has the biggest capacity of the six cells, has reached its capacity. For Cell 2 to be expanded, Cell 3 must be opened first.

These numbers tell us to act now or be sorry later.

This reality became the driving force behind the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers' recommendation to implement a UGC system to immediately address waste management on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. This also led to discussions about how we can minimize waste on all three islands by revisiting the 3Rs—reduce, reuse, and recycle—in an improved and integrated waste management system.

The CNMI has an existing law on recycling, known as the Commonwealth Recycling Act of 1999 or Public Law 11-122 signed by then-governor Pedro P. Tenorio in 2000.

## LAWYER

From Page 1

month prison sentence on Banes, but except for five days with credit for 12 hours already served, placed Banes under house arrest for four days and 12 hours from April 27 to May 1.

Govendo also suspended Banes' driver's license for 30 days, starting last April 22. He will be allowed, though, to drive for work or for medical purposes.

Banes will be placed on nine months' probation during which he "must not possess or consume any alcohol" after he serves his four days of house arrest. Govendo noted that Banes has already completed an alcohol information class.

Under the law, the public is encouraged to recycle metal, plastic, and paper waste, and compost biodegradable waste. The construction of recycling processing stations was also explored. When the Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station opened in early 2000, as many as seven companies provided recycling services in the CNMI. Today, there's only one left.

Did you know that nearly 70% of the trash that we dispose at the Marpi Landfill is recyclable?

The 3Rs program can also offer economic opportunities similar to a program in Palau. Palau established a beverage container redemption program with public and private tourism stakeholders. The program produced an 87% recovery rate of bottles (105 million beverage containers were collected and 1.5 million were exported from 2011-2018). This generated \$3 million in donations for Palau's recycling fund and \$5.2 million in refunds for customers.

More waste diversion programs are recommended in the study. This relates to a point made by the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance, the group that advocates for the protection and restoration of the CNMI's natural resources. The group emphasizes that the effective management of trash, recycling, and the reduction of debris deposited into our landfill are critical to having a clean, safe, and secure environment. We wholeheartedly agree. TOGETHER, WE CAN properly address these issues to create a positive, long-lasting environmental and economic impact in the Commonwealth.

Banes pleaded guilty to reckless driving last April 22 and was ordered to pay a fine of \$1,000 and \$145 for probation and court costs.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Banes was arrested on March 9, 2020 for allegedly fleeing the scene after hitting another car with his vehicle in Susupe.

Last July 7, 2020, the Office of the Attorney General filed a traffic case charging Banes with driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, reckless driving, and accidents.

Sources from the Department of Public Safety disclosed that police officers pulled over the lawyer's vehicle by Joeten in Susupe. Fortunately, no one was injured in the incident.

Board of Education chair Andrew L. Orsini, Chamorro, Carolinian and Heritage Studies program director Jonas Barcinas, and BOE vice chair Herman Atalig. Barcinas was the masters of ceremony during the CNMI PSS-wide Administrative Professionals Day celebration.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



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Eliseo D. Cabrera  
Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality**

Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.dcrm.gov.mp](http://www.dcrm.gov.mp)



Janice E. Castro  
Director, DCRM

## NOTICE TO ALL MARINE SPORTS OPERATORS ON SAIPAN, TINIAN & ROTA

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) recognizes the economic hardship that CNMI marine sports operators have experienced, and continue to experience, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NMIAC § 15-10-205(h)(4) requires all commercial marine sports permits to expire on May 30th each year. To assist the marine sports community during these challenging times, the renewal fee for commercial marine sports operators whose permit(s) were renewed last year and are set to expire on May 30, 2021, shall be waived. To avail of a permit fee waiver, all currently permitted marine sports operators on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota must submit a complete application package to DCRM on or before May 30, 2021.

Marine sports operations that did not renew their permit last year are not eligible for a fee waiver. For more information, contact DCRM at 664-8300.

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO  
DCRM Director



### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



## REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES CUC-RAESP-21-024

### A&E Design Services for the Dandan Water Tank Replacement Project, Kagman Water Tank Replacement Project, and the Tinian Water Tank Replacement Project

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) in coordination with the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified Architectural and Engineering (A&E) firms for the Design Services of the following projects: Dandan Water Tank Replacement Project, Kagman Water Tank Replacement Project, and the Tinian Water Tank Replacement in Saipan and Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

*This project is funded by a grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from NMHC & HUD.*

Prospective Proposers for this project must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RAESP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one package set.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Proposal and One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal in a separate envelope** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RAESP-21-024, A&E Design Services for Dandan Water Tank Replacement Project, Kagman Water Tank Replacement Project, and the Tinian Water Tank Replacement Project", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 20, 2021**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted by competing proposers.

All proposers are advised that CUC and NMHC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Consultant's preparation of a proposal under the contract. The RAESP does not commit CUC and NMHC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the statement of qualifications under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Consultants are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RAESP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 29, 2021** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater, Acting Chief Engineer – via email [larry.manacop@cucgov.org](mailto:larry.manacop@cucgov.org); and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Technician Senior – via email [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC and NMHC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC and NMHC.

WILLIAM B. GILMORE  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator

## Emergency supplies delivered to Palau after Typhoon Surigae

**SANTA RITA, Guam**—The crew of the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Myrtle Hazard delivered emergency supplies including water and food to the island of Kayangel last Saturday in response to a national emergency declared by President Surangel Whipps Jr. after Typhoon Surigae devastated the region last week.

"Today, our crew had a unique opportunity to conduct one of the most satisfying missions the U.S. Coast Guard is known for, humanitarian aid," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Andrew Johnson, a coxswain aboard the Myrtle Hazard. "We were extremely excited to be able to offer help, which for a small island such as Kayangel makes a major impact. I am proud I was able to be a part of it."

Last week the slow-moving

typhoon made landfall in Palau, bringing significant rainfall and heavy winds. The storm caused flooding and resulted in damage to homes and properties throughout the islands.

On April 18, the president of Palau declared a national emergency and made an official request to the U.S. embassy for assistance. Capt. Christopher Chase, commander, Coast Guard Sector Guam and Ambassador John Hennessey-Niland, U.S. Embassy Koror, spoke by phone and determined what supplies were needed and the best method to deliver them.

At the time the Myrtle Hazard's crew was conducting an illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries patrol north of Guam and was recalled back to homeport for the humani-

tarian mission.

In Guam, supplies were donated and collected by a number of different organizations, including the Chief Petty Officers Association Marianas Chapter, the U.S. Naval Base Chapel, the Orotte Commissary, the Ngaraad Club of Guam, the Kayangel Club of Guam, and the Guam Paluan community. The cutter then departed Guam for the 800 nautical mile transit to Palau with the supplies.

Upon arriving in Palau the crew worked closely with the government and the U.S. embassy to coordinate a safe, contactless transfer of the supplies to Kayangel and to ensure the safety of both the people of Palau and the cutters crew while conserving the nation's vital medical supplies. (USCG)



### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING AGENCY Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center



#### Public Service Announcement – Availability of Criminal Justice Grants

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA) is announcing the availability of federal funds from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). These Grant Programs include the Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA), the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant program and the Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG). A brief description and amounts available for each award under individual programs are listed below. Please visit our Office on Capitol Hill, building 1315 for a more detailed explanation on eligibility requirements, program purpose areas and the new application form. **All applicants must have a DUNS number and nonprofit agencies must have a 501 (c) (3) Federal Tax Exemption.**

#### Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) FY2020: \$168,531.00

The Available funds can be implemented in the following purpose areas: Law Enforcement program, Prosecution and Court Programs, Prevention and Education programs, Corrections and community corrections programs, Drug treatment and enforcement programs. Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs. Crime victim and witness program (other than compensation).

#### Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), Assistance Formula Program: FY2020: \$432,981.00

- To comply with VOCA guidelines, funds made available through VOCA assistance program is intended for agencies that provide direct service to victims of crime. Funds under this program is designed to provide direct services to all victims of child abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assaults.
- All applicants must show in their application how they will provide direct services to one or more of the crime victims mentioned above.
- New applicants must also show on their application that they have a history of providing direct services to crime victims and have other sources of funding to support the program to ensure continuity of services to victims.

#### Amounts Available:

Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse: \$383,248.00

Underserved Crime Victims: \$49,732.00

#### STOP Violence Against Women Act Formula Grant Program (VAWA) FY2020: \$556,696.00

STOP-VAWA grant programs provide assistance for victims through protection and services that they need to pursue safe and healthy lives, while simultaneously enabling communities to hold offenders accountable for their violence. In accordance with the STOP program requirements "CNMI Three Year Implementation Plan", STOP-VAWA grant funds are made available to support law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, and the Superior Court in the CNMI.

Allotted agencies mentioned below, must submit a complete application of how available funds will be used, including an implementation plan of how goals, objectives and activities will help meet the predicted outcomes of their respective programs. In accordance with the CNMI Implementation Plan, these categories and/or agencies are allotted at least the following amounts based on the requirements percentages set by VAWA:

- Non Profit, Non-Governmental Victim Services:** of which at least 10% is to be distributed to culturally-specific community based organizations; Victim Services = \$105,076.00; Culturally Specific Services = \$18,566.00; programs that meaningfully address Sexual Assault Purpose only = \$43,376.00. Total for Victim Services = \$167,008.00.
- Law Enforcement** \$102,912.00; programs that meaningfully address Sexual Assault Purpose only = \$36,262.00. Total for law Enforcement: \$139,174.00
- Prosecution** \$102,912.00; Programs that meaningfully address Sexual Assault Purpose only = \$36,262.00. Total for Prosecution \$139,174.00.
- Courts** \$20,024.00; programs that meaningfully address Sexual Assault Purpose only = \$7,809.00. Total for Court \$27,833.00.
- Discretionary;** may be spent at the discretion of the state/territory to address statutory program areas, \$83,504.00

#### Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) FY2020: \$59,460.00

The Sexual Assault Service Program (SASP), created by the Violence Against Women Act of 2005, is the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. Overall, the purpose of SASP is to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance for adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault, family and household members of victims, and those collaterally affected by the sexual assault.

This grant is for Non Profit agencies that provide sexual assault services only.

The available funds will be awarded by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System (CJPA Supervisory Council) through a sub-grant review process and plan consistent with the project description outlined in the program applications and accompanying strategies for the aforementioned DOJ programs. Projects funded under these programs will be monitored and administered by the Criminal Justice Planning Agency. Dates for the award process will be announced at a later date.

**All completed applications and required documents must be submitted to CJPA no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 14, 2021.**  
**No application will be accepted after the deadline.**

#### For Tinian and Rota Applications Only:

Completed applications submitted from Rota and Tinian will be accepted by emailing [ztainanao.cjpa@gmail.com](mailto:ztainanao.cjpa@gmail.com), including a "must" be submitted hardcopy via air waybill with the deadline said above stamped or recorded on the "executed on date and time" section of the air waybill. Incomplete application(s) sent in by fax will not be accepted.

For more information and for interested applicants, please contact CJPA at 664-4550/4551/4554/4556/4558 or stop by the Office on Capitol Hill (Building #1315). Please indicate and specify which grant and year you are applying for on the application. If necessary, please call the CJPA Office at 664-4550.

**Indirect Cost will be assessed on government entities.**

/s/ Hon. Alejandro C. Castro  
Chairman, Supervisory Council

/s/ Zerlyn A. Taimanao  
Executive Director, CJPA



## PSS holds youth conference

By JOSHUA SANTOS  
joshua\_santos@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Public School System is holding its Annual Youth Conference this week, beginning with the Middle School Youth Conference yesterday, from 8:30am to 2pm, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Hibiscus Hall.

The High School Youth Conference will happen today from 8:30am to 2pm, also at the Hibiscus Hall.

In compliance with COVID-19 safety guidelines, guest numbers were limited and the conference's breakout sessions took place in multiple spaces instead of all sessions taking place at the Hibiscus Hall. Pre-pandemic, the conference would have been a combined, one-day event happening around the beginning of the school year.

"We normally have this at the beginning of the school year, but because we had so many things going on with planning and trainings for virtual learning we had to move it toward the ending of the school year," said Personal Responsibility Education Program director Melisha San

Nicholas. "From here, [the conferences] should stir some motivation for [the students] to create their plans and timelines for the next school year."

During the conferences' breakout sessions, student leaders from their respective middle schools and high schools presented—with the guidance of participating community partners like the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Office of Planning and Development—their ideas and goals for the upcoming school year and other topics of interest. Some of the breakout topics include the Power of Worth and mental health, Digital Citizenship in the Age of Technology, and Positive Youth Development.

San Nicholas thanks her PREP colleagues for sponsoring and organizing the event and Project Haligi Aware for funding the conferences through grants.

"Learning doesn't always have to be just in the classroom. They can learn from each other by going around, and this is one of the opportunities that [the students] will have," said San Nicholas.

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### 5.5-magnitude quake in Pagan region

At 2:08pm on April 29, 2021, a report of a 5.5-magnitude earthquake occurred 23 miles north-northwest of Pagan in the Northern Mariana Islands. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, please contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 670-237-8000. (PR)

#### Power interruptions on May 4, 5

There will be scheduled power service interruptions on May 4 and 5, 2021, for Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in Papago in order for CUC linemen to safely replace existing rotted power poles to concrete poles in the affected areas.

**Tuesday, May 4, 2021- 8:30am to 3:30pm**

■ Outage Type: Sectionalized Interruption on the Feeder 4 Circuit

■ Project Location: Papago

■ Power Service Area(s) Affected:

- From 8:30am to 1:30pm- Isa Drive, Papago (Ahgaga Dr. & Amot Ln.)

- From 8:30am to 3:30pm- Papago (parts of Isa Drive)

Water Well Affected: None  
Wastewater Lift Station Affected: None

**Wednesday, May 5, 2021- 8:30am to 3:30pm**

■ Outage Type: Sectionalized Interruption on the Feeder 4 Circuit

■ Project Location: Papago

■ Power Service Areas Affected:

ed: Papago (parts of Isa Drive)

■ Water Well Affected: None  
■ Wastewater Lift Station Affected: None

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). (PR)

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program continues to be open to accept applications for Front liners. Front liners are defined as:

1. Front liners/workers assigned to working on Covid-19 activities with direct contact of individuals for example: workers at testing sites, workers at quarantine sites, law enforcement assisting at testing sites;
2. Law enforcement, public safety officers, CNMI Homeland Security employees, emergency medical services working on Covid-19 activities with direct contact of individuals, including all individuals who work and provide medical services at the hospital or private clinics;
3. Retail cashiers, gas attendants, sanitation workers, bank tellers;
4. Child care teachers, caregivers, including employees in the educational sector.

Front liners who may not necessarily meet income guidelines for the family may still qualify. For more information regarding eligibility requirements, please call Genevieve Guerrero, CCDF Eligibility Specialist at 664-2576 or email at [dcca.jguerrero@gmail.com](mailto:dcca.jguerrero@gmail.com) or Joella Rosario, CCDF Eligibility Specialist at 664-2575 or email at [ccdf.jrosario@gmail.com](mailto:ccdf.jrosario@gmail.com). You may also want to visit [cnmiclp.gov.mp](http://cnmiclp.gov.mp) to download the CCDF Waitlist Application Packet.

/s/ Maribel D. Loste  
CCDF Administrator

/s/ Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero  
DCCA Secretary

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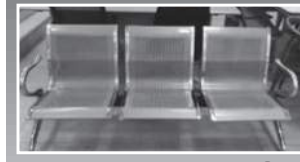
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Robert Tenorio Torres  
Attorney at Law  
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)  
P.O. Box 503758  
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859  
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff, MPLT

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

<b>MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,</b>	<b>Civil Action No. 16-0222</b>
<b>Plaintiff,</b>	
<b>vs.</b>	<b>NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE</b>
<b>GEORGE R. RABAUIMAN,</b>	
<b>Defendant,</b>	

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that under and by virtue of the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property entered in the above titled action on March 26, 2021, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff Marianas Public Land Trust from George R. Rabauliman, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on **June 24, 2021, at 10:00 A.M., at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room in Capital Hill, Saipan**, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot/Tract No. 011 G 413, containing an area of 858 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 07, the original of which was recorded December 16, 1993 as Document No. 93-4415 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, CNMI.

### Terms and Conditions of Sale

- Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public.
- With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
  - to withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
  - to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
  - to reject any and all bids.
- Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Email: rttl@pticom.com and rttl@pticom.com.
- Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which will revert to the Marianas Public Land Trust.
- Change of Terms:** Auctioneer and the Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty:** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 08<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.

/s/  
ROBERT T. TORRES, F0197  
Auctioneer

# Board urged to resume NMTI operations

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Sens. Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) and Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) have urged the Northern Marianas Technical Institute board of trustees to resume operations of NMTI.

In a letter Wednesday to the NMTI board chair Mario Valentino, DeLeon Guerrero and Manglona said the "lack of communication" and "unclear reasoning" to stop NMTI operations is greatly disap-

pointing, especially during a time when the skills learned at NMTI can help the islands and for the students' brighter futures.

With the closure of NMTI, approximately 100 students are affected, the senators said, not accounting for the additional 120 students that are on the waiting list for the next "module" cycle.

They said 30 of the current NMTI students are pursuing their high school diploma equivalent in trade and vocational certifications, such

as the National Center for Construction Education and Research certification. "This means that these students are being displaced from furthering their educational and vocational career at a CNMI-based institution," the senators said.

DeLeon Guerrero and Manglona said these students require the help of the government more than ever to ensure a productive future for themselves, their loved ones, and the entire CNMI.

They said NMTI's overall biggest concern are the

students and that, by ceasing operations, none of its purposes are being fulfilled and the students' future, educational, and professional careers are being discarded.

The senators pointed out that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres himself stressed the need for foreign labor (3,000 additional construction workers) to rebuild the CNMI and its economy from the aftermath of both Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu. They noted that Torres has stated in his fiscal year 2022 budget proposal that the three-year period mandated under U.S. Public Law 116-94 to bring in these foreign construction workers is expiring in 2022 and it is important "that we accelerate or request to U.S. Congress to extend the period as a result of the public health emergency, including local legislation necessary to ease the statutes governing the importation of foreign labor, specifically for construction workers."

DeLeon Guerrero and Manglona said that in addition to addressing this concern for the need for foreign labor, the CNMI needs to remain fo-

cused on the skills and trainings NMTI can provide to the local labor workforce.

The senators said they are certain this goal of addressing the manpower shortage cannot be adequately attained if there was no budget allocated to NMTI in fiscal year 2021 as well as in the fiscal year 2022 budget proposal.

"Instead, we are closing the school due to the new NMTI board's inability to address the transition from a private entity to a public entity, resulting in hurting the students," they said.

DeLeon Guerrero and Manglona said the NMTI students, some of whom are from the low-income bracket, rely heavily on the government's assistance to attend NMTI in the hopes of obtaining the skills needed to enhance their educational and professional careers.

"What is happening to these students' tuition funds, scholarships, and other out-of-pocket expenses as well as their credits earned now that NMI is not currently operating? How long is NMTI expected to be closed?" the senators asked.

### DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES CNMI GOVERNMENT

## INVITATION TO BID ITB 20.: ITB21-DPS-078

**SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 10, 2020 10:30 A.M.**

### “(A) PURCHASE OF TWENTY (20) CLASS “I” SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES (B) PURCHASE OF FIVE (5) CLASS “F” 4WD/FOUR (4) FULL DOORS PICK UP TRUCK FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**\*\*FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY\*\***

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO  
COMMISSIONER, DPS

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP21-CHCC/ELC-001

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MAY 4TH, 2021 TIME: 4:30PM (CHST)**

### “COMMUNITY DISEASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CDMS)”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORAZON P. ADA  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

### COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950  
Phone: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (1-670) 234-5962  
E-mail Address: [cpa.admin@pticom.com](mailto:cpa.admin@pticom.com) •  
Website: [www.cnmiports.com](http://www.cnmiports.com)

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 02-2021

**Opening date: April 15, 2021 Closing date: May 05, 2021**

**Positions:**

- (1) Grants Coordinator-Saipan
- (1) Electrician-Saipan
- (1) Ports Police Officer I-Saipan
- (1) General Maintenance II-Rota Seaport

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 111-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 05, 2021**.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at [lorna.tenorio@cnmiports.com](mailto:lorna.tenorio@cnmiports.com) or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

### MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122

THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC  
POST OFFICE BOX 5222  
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950  
TEL: (670)234-6547 FAX: (670) 234-9537  
ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, )  
Plaintiff, )  
-v- )  
The Estate of JOAQUINA NEKALES KANIKI, )  
Deceased, )  
Defendant )

CIVIL ACTION NO. 17-0225

### THIRD AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on February 7, 2019, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

**Legal description of the property:**

Lot no. 015 D 54, situated in Sugar King Estates, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat no. 015 D 00, the original of which was registered on September 11, 1975, as Documents no. 4841, at the Land Registry, Saipan.

**Total area of the property:** 982 square meters, more or less

**Known encumbrances:** None

**Date, Time, and Place of Sale:** The sale will be held on Monday, May 21, 2021, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public. Copies of a title insurance report for the properties are available to any prospective bidder upon request.

**The Terms and Conditions of Sale:** The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

Dated, this 22nd day of April, 2021:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

### DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES CNMI GOVERNMENT

## INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: RFP21-GOV-081

**SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 10, 2021 TIME: 09:00 A.M.**

### “Lease Building or Office Space for the CNMI Recovery and Infrastructure Program”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**\*\*FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY\*\***

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ PATRICK C. GUERRERO  
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OFFICER

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CNMI GOVERNMENT

## INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: DPW21-ITB-024

FHWA PROJECT NO. TQ-THS-0202 (301)

**SUBMISSION DATE: May 25, 2021 TIME: 10:00 A.M**

## “Route 202, Hazard Elimination Project, Tinian”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

The project package will be available on or after **April 23, 2021** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **May 11, 2021**, 9:00 a.m., local time at the **Tinian Mayor Office, Tinian**. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 18, 2021** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA  
SECRETARY, DPW

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES

Joey P. San Nicolas  
Attorney-at-Law  
San Nicolas Law Office, LLC  
2nd Floor, Island Commercial Center, Rm. 203  
Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai  
P.O. Box 10,001 PMB 602, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-7659 | Fax: (670) 234-9218  
Email: [jpsn@sannicolaslawn.net](mailto:jpsn@sannicolaslawn.net)  
Attorney for Petitioner Margarita Takai Prater

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER ) Civil Action  
OF THE ESTATE OF ) No.: 21-0131  
ANTONIO DUENAS )  
TAKAI, )  
Decedent. ) **NOTICE OF HEARING  
AND NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS**

**TO: ALL HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND CREDITORS OF ANTONIO DUENAS TAKAI**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the petition of Margarita Takai Prater for the issuance of letters testamentary will be heard before the Honorable Joseph N. Camacho, Associate Judge, on the 27th day of May, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., at Room 205, Superior Court of the Northern Mariana Islands, Susupe Village, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.


For further particulars, please refer to the Petition on file herein, or contact counsel for Petitioner, Joey P. San Nicolas, P.O. Box 10,001 PMB 602, Saipan, MP 96950; telephone (670) 234-7659 and email [jpsn@sannicolaslawn.net](mailto:jpsn@sannicolaslawn.net).

Pursuant to Rule 11, NMI R. Prob. P., notice is hereby given to all creditors of the decedent, ANTONIO DUENAS TAKAI, or of his estate, that they must file their claims with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, within sixty (60) days of the first publication of this Notice, or the claims will be forever barred.


Dated this 28th day of April, 2021.

Hon. JOSEPH N. CAMACHO  
Associate Judge





**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS**

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation  
Saipan, MP 96950 | Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after May 10, 2021, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington D.C., for the release of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 P.L. 116-20, enacted on January 27, 2020, announced via Federal Register Notice, to undertake the following activity and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Apengahg St. and Ghilis St. Road and Drainage Improvement Project- CDBG-DR Infrastructure Projects	Road and Drainage Improvement Project	San Jose, Saipan	Approximately \$650,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) and is ready for public viewing on the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) website at www.nmhcgov.net or www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com; or you may visit the on file at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or NMHC CDBG-DR Office in Beach Road Chalan Laulau, Saipan during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. You may submit comments from the following options: Via mail to P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan or drop-box located in front of the building; and Via email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net. All comments received by May 10, 2021, 4:30 p.m., will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.


RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Ralph DLG. Torres consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.


OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to Ms. Tennille Smith Parker, DRSI Division Director, HUD, via email at Tennille.S.Parker@hud.gov ; Tel: (202)402-4649. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/ **Ralph DLG Torres**  
**Governor, CNMI**



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
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Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Northern Marianas College Construction of 2 storey concrete buildings for classrooms and Laboratories for the Northern Marianas College (NMC)	Reconstruction of classrooms and laboratories that were damaged by Super Typhoon Yutu.	Finasisu, Saipan	\$14,678,103.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) and is ready for public viewing on the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) website at www.nmhcgov.net or www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com; or you may visit the on file at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or NMHC CDBG-DR Office in Beach Road Chalan Laulau, Saipan during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

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/s/ **Ralph DLG Torres**  
**Governor, CNMI**



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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### EDITORIAL

## There is no absolute right to refuse vaccination

**M**ore than half of American adults have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and nearly a third are fully vaccinated. Vaccination has now been opened to everyone 16 and older. Our biggest worry in the coming months isn't whether we'll be able to deliver enough doses; it's whether enough people will seek them.

We're getting closer to the point where every American who wants to be vaccinated will have gotten their needle stick. A quarter of Americans say they don't plan to be vaccinated; in vaccine-friendlier California, that's 1 in 5.

Of those who don't plan to be immunized, some worry about the newness of the vaccines, while others just don't like vaccines in general, despite the mountains of proof about how many lives they save, and some stubbornly refuse to believe that COVID-19 is all that dangerous. They should take a sobering look at India, where vaccine hesitancy has been identified as one of the major factors, along with new variants and complacency about risks, behind a horrific surge in cases and deaths.

Now, as businesses in the U.S. beckon employees back to the office, colleges prepare for the return of students in the fall, and stadiums, arenas and concert halls open, vaccine resistance is colliding with efforts to fully restart the economy and, over time, ditch the masks and social distancing. Numerous Republican officials have opposed "vaccine passports" that would grant services or entry only to people who'd been vaccinated. Some parents are declaring that they don't want to have their children inoculated in order to return to school, should the vaccines be approved for people younger than 16. Some teachers don't want the shots, either. Or nurses.

Drawing the lines on vaccine mandates can be tricky. We don't require flu vaccination for public school students, but we do require the shots that guard against measles, mumps and rubella and a host of other diseases.

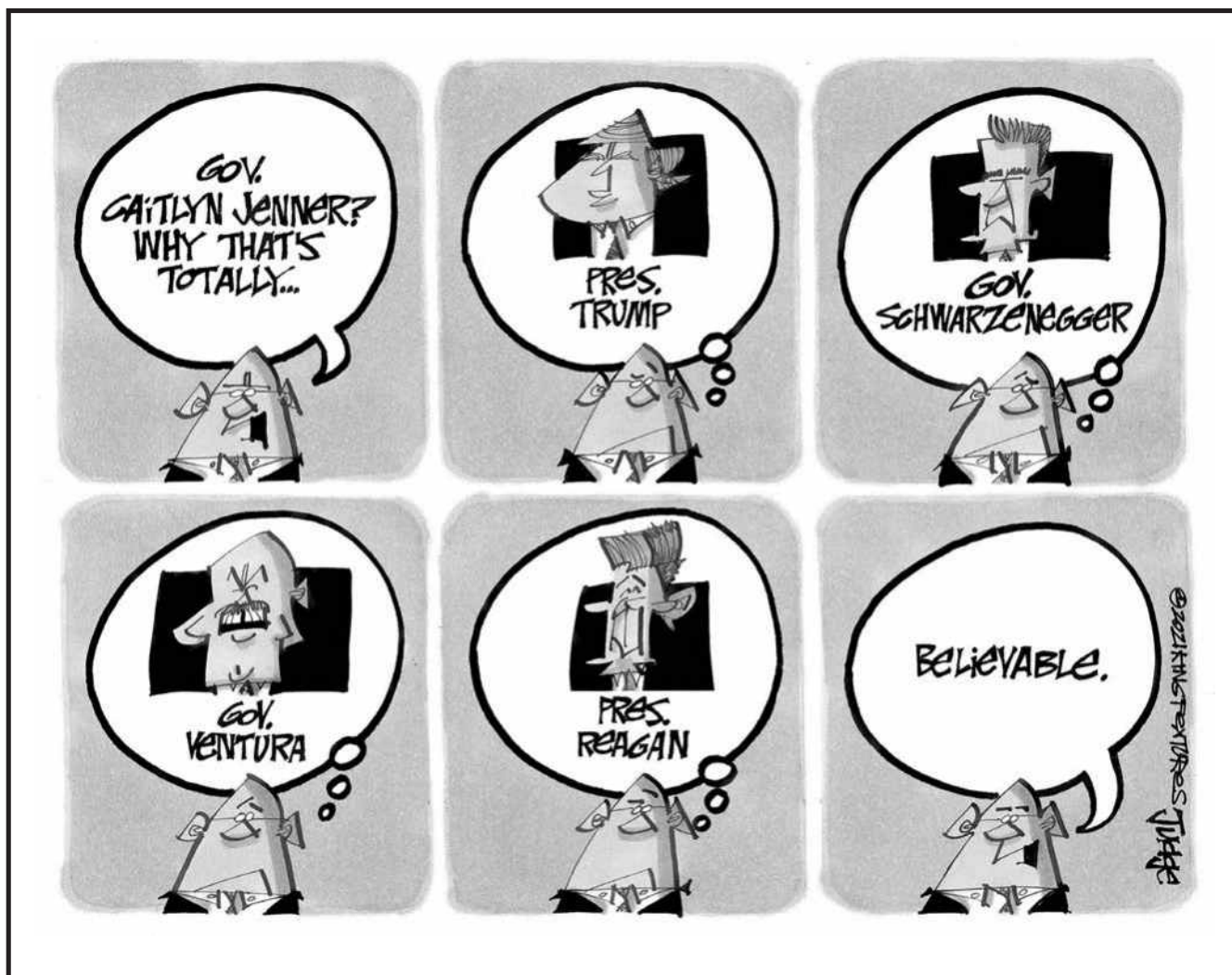
Yet some things are clear.

No one has the right to sicken anyone else or start a new spike in cases through carelessness or their own sense of "personal choice." At the same time, people who have a valid medical reason not to be vaccinated—and they are extremely few—should get a pass.

Private businesses and employers have a right to set the rules for their customers, employees and anyone else who comes through their doors. Medical staff shouldn't be allowed to sicken patients—or one another—with a potentially deadly virus. Foreign visitors to the United States also should have to show that they have gotten the shots or submit to quarantine, just as U.S. tourists to the European Union will have to do this summer.

At the other end of the spectrum, should widespread vaccination and advances in treatment bring COVID-19 to the

See **VACCINATION** on Next Page



## The global vaccine crisis is a test of capitalism

**T**he 2008 crash tested financial globalization. In 2020, the chaos of the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic led many to question the world's dependence on complex global supply chains. These last few months, however, as vaccination programs have taken off in some parts of the world and stalled in others, have raised even deeper doubts about globalization and the capitalist system. Unless governments act soon, capitalism itself could face a crisis of credibility.

The greatest argument in favor of regulated markets is that they manage production better than any other system. Done properly, regulated market capitalism is supposed to match supply and demand, and provide the right incentives. Productive capacity is built, not wasted. Buyers and sellers are connected. Innovation thrives and benefits everyone.

But, right now, that's not the case. This isn't about inequality, which we always knew capitalism could create. It's about inefficiency, which capitalism is supposed to avoid.

When it comes to desperately needed COVID-19 vaccines, capacity is being wasted and innovation isn't benefiting everyone. Twelve billion vaccine doses could be produced this year, if all current projections are aggregated. But we're nowhere close to that in actuality. And the doses that are available have largely been gobbled up by rich countries.

Can more be produced? In many developing nations, pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity is being under-utilized. One Bangladeshi company says it could churn out 600 to 800 million doses annually if granted the appropriate licenses and know-how. Even if that's an overestimate, too many such factories stand idle, waiting for a nod from regulators and patent-holders. The 41 members of the Developing Countries Vaccine Manufacturers Network alone produce between three and four billion shots of other vaccines every year.

It isn't surprising, therefore, that multiple countries have demanded intellectual property rights essentially be suspended for the duration of the pandemic for COVID-related drugs and vaccines. That sounds like a tempting—even satisfying—solution. But, as my colleague David Fickling has pointed out, if getting new vaccines out the door was as simple as ignoring IPR rules, then we would see developing countries doing just that by issuing what are called "compulsory licenses." They haven't.

True, some countries may fear retaliation if they issue such licenses; a broad IPR waiver would get around that problem. But the larger issue is that something as complex as a COVID-19 vaccine cannot be easily reverse-engineered. Simply telling companies they're free to try won't do much good.

By **MIHIR SHARMA**  
Bloomberg Opinion

Mihir Swarup Sharma is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He is a senior fellow at the Observer Research Foundation in New Delhi and head of its Economy and Growth Programme. He is the author of *Restart: The Last Chance for the Indian Economy, and co-editor of What the Economy Needs Now.*



In other words, we need Big Pharma to cooperate and license its technology to as many manufacturers as possible. Somewhat to my surprise, the vaccine industry seems already to be working unusually hard at this. While the usual timeline for technology transfer is years, one study looked at over 70 such outsourcing and partnership deals during the pandemic and found that the typical time between the transfer and the start of manufacturing had shrunk to six months.

But the disincentives for Big Pharma to expand production even further are considerable. It isn't that all of them are greedy capitalists worried that they'll lose a bit of cash, in spite of what you may have read in that angry post on Facebook. Some have, after all, agreed to give up on profit-making while the pandemic rages—so it's in their interest to ensure that COVID-19 switches from pandemic to endemic as soon as possible.

More likely, the binding constraint is that they're already really stretched internally; every new licensee that they sign up would add another location they'd need to carefully scrutinize to ensure that it meets good manufacturing practices. As Rajeev Venkayya of Takeda Vaccines Inc. argued on Twitter, "every aspect of vaccine manufacturing is tightly controlled," "70% of manufacturing time is spent on quality control," and "all of these challenges carry over to manufacturing partnerships for capacity expansion."

Even so, these can't be seen as insurmountable obstacles, not when the situation is so dire. Several prominent figures associated with global public health and the World Health Organization issued an appeal last month in the *British Medical Journal* for companies to "voluntarily step up with licensing and share their knowledge with multiple producers—moving from a limited set of contract manufacturers to a coordinated effort with multiple producers."

If that is to happen, governments will have to help. Rich-country governments should, in particular, consider how to pay for

See **GLOBAL** on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Strengthening democracy starts with better monitoring of our civic health

**T**he events of the past year—including the pandemic, Black Lives Matter protests and the insurrection in the Capitol—have shown our nation what happens when we don't address civic challenges or risk factors.

Similar to a dry forest that can become inflamed by a tiny spark, when we don't pay attention to threats to our civic health, one incident can set off a series of chain reactions. For instance, the public's lack of trust in government has contributed to prolonging the pandemic in multiple ways, including people's unwillingness to wear face masks or become vaccinated.

When our civic health is strong, communities are less polarized and people are physically healthier, safer and more resilient in times of crisis. Understanding what makes civic health function well or poorly is critical to supporting a strong and functioning democracy.

How do we measure civic health? Multiple factors facilitate healthy or unhealthy civic life—including whether people vote, talk with their neighbors and trust their government. Why are some com-

munities close-knit, while in others people barely talk with each other? Or why do some communities react to crises well, with droves of people helping deal with tragedies or natural disasters, while others lack the "people power" and networks to respond effectively?

My organization explores how to measure these things. Similar to check-ups at the doctor's office, regular "civic health" assessments are essential. By collecting data in a geographic area, we can better understand civic assets, risk factors and what we can do about them.

The predominant way civic health is currently measured is using data from the Current Population Survey, a monthly Census Bureau poll of about 60,000 households. The National Conference on Citizenship currently works with states across the country to create "civic health indexes," pulling data summaries from the civic engagement and voting supplements of the survey.

But the Census Bureau data is limited in measuring civic health in three important ways.

It provides a state-level picture only, so it's not possible to compare what's happening in different parts of a single state. While the survey measures civic actions such as voting or volunteering, it doesn't gauge attitudes and feelings, such as trust in government or whether people feel they matter to others in their community. And while the poll asks about civic actions ("Do you read the news?") it doesn't provide information about the civic life in their community ("My local council gives me a meaningful say in decisions that affect me.")

Civic health outcomes are affected by a community's "civic infrastructure"—the laws, processes, institutions and associations that support opportunities for people to connect, solve problems, make decisions and celebrate community. This can include such diverse things as welcoming public spaces, grassroots groups like neighborhood associations and racial equity training for public officials.

We often incorporate this idea in our research. For example, we helped folks in six states by examining the local and state civic infrastructure before they started trying to improve civic health.

To get a more comprehensive assessment of civic health, several approaches can be taken.

Going beyond the census data may lead to deeper depictions of engagement. The Social Capital Community Benchmarks Survey, sponsored by three-dozen community foundations and used sporadically across the nation, measures trust, social connection and barriers to engagement. Other national surveys, such as the Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel, ask other valuable questions about civic life that could be included in other surveys.

Other state and national research may shed insight into how

**By QUIXADA MOORE-VISSING**  
The Fulcrum

*Moore-Vissing is associate director for national engagement at Public Agenda, a non-profit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to creating a stronger, more inclusive, more participatory democracy for everyone.*



civic health affects certain populations or social issues, such as opioid use. For instance, the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Kids Count data and the Youth Risk Behavior Survey both provide information about youth experiences and civic health.

Plenty of tools allow citizens to share their own assessments. We have a Civic Engagement Scorecard for people to rate their local community's civic life in terms of participatory practice and transparency. Communities may also experiment with qualitative data collection, such as participatory action research or storytelling campaigns.

Once civic health data is collected, how can communities use it? Ideally, civic health outcomes should directly inform interventions to strengthen civic life. For instance, in our study last year of New Hampshire, we found Millennials lagged behind other generations in civic health outcomes. With one of the oldest populations of any state, New Hampshire's future depends on its ability to support young adults in participating in civic life. Now, the state is considering a variety of approaches to this challenge.

Other states have used civic health data to catalyze conversations about civic life. Connecticut created a statewide civic health advisory committee, which includes the secretary of the state, where leaders from different sectors discuss civic priorities. The Georgia Family Connection Partnership used civic health data to stimulate conversations in different counties about civic health programming and priorities.

The choices we make in the coming years, such as how to rebuild community after the pandemic, will have lasting effects on our society. We are staring into the face of unprecedented political polarization, with rising calls for white supremacy as well as intensifying movements for racial equity. At the same time, our population faces the challenge of reentering public life after more than a year of social isolation.

So there is no more urgent time to make informed choices about what actions will best support strong civic health.

## Virtue and Vice/ Naughty and Nice

**LITERARY NOOK**

**By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.*



*"Eat not to dullness, drink not to elevation"*  
—from the autobiography of Benjamin Franklin, 1793.

**Temperance Tattle**

Beer, wine, and whiskey does not exist to please itself in glasses, bottles and cans as it sits there on a shelf sometime when you feel like riding high on a horse seek a slower gait and ride easy in sobriety's saddle you might indulge in a short little vino veritas course don't let inebriation or getting drunk win the battle that might also be said for gluttony and fried fat food gobbling sweets and guzzling booze in a manner rude moderate your consumption in eating and drinking eat hearty and enjoy any alcohol you may consume stop before slurred speech and muddled thinking excess fat and booze may lead to an early tomb take it easy on too much as you go through life so you don't wind up like Jack Sprat and his wife.

**Intemperance Intellection**

All around them hangs an amazing alcoholic aura a cold conflagration of conspicuous consumption of jiggers, shots, pints, fifths, quarts, a plethora fulfilling a fun filled but possibly fatal function cool cats, dirty dawgs, other drunken carnivora follow each other on trips to a juiced up junction riding high on a hog and three sheets to the winds going ninety miles an hour down a thunder road white lightening and Two Buck Chuck best friends hangovers wake up calls heads about to explode just can't seem to leave a few drops in the bottle befuddled boozy brains mix fantasy with fiction roaring down Night Train mountain on full throttle deep defiant denial facing acute alcohol addiction.

**GLOBAL**

From Page 10

the renovation and expansion of facilities in the developing world to prepare them to make vaccines under license. Developing-country governments should strengthen their own commitment to regulation and to intellectual property, in order to ensure that their own manufacturers look attractive as

**VACCINATION**

From Page 10

point where it is no more dangerous than the flu—which isn't exactly safe, killing 30,000 to 50,000 Americans a year on average—the rules should be no more onerous than they are for that disease. Here's hoping that day isn't too far off.

And unvaccinated people should be able to go to uncrowded outdoor settings where the chance of passing the illness on to others is extremely small, such as when walking down an uncrowded sidewalk. That's already true under new guidelines by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and many municipal rules.

Schools appear to be safe environments for now, but they can't move to full-time, normal activity without vaccination. That will have to wait until the vaccines have been approved for children. At that point, just as immunization is required for all kinds of diseases at school, the same should be true of the

licensing partners.

If both sides don't meet this challenge, then across the world people are going to wonder if a system that leads to wasted capacity and market failure even during a global pandemic is all it's cracked up to be. Global trading rules, basic respect for intellectual property and much else hangs in the balance. Unless we can scale up our response soon, capitalism's reputation could take a bigger hit in 2021 than 2008, or 1929.






COVID-19 vaccines. Teachers and other staff also should be required to get their shots. There is more chance of adults passing it to one another than of students spreading the disease.

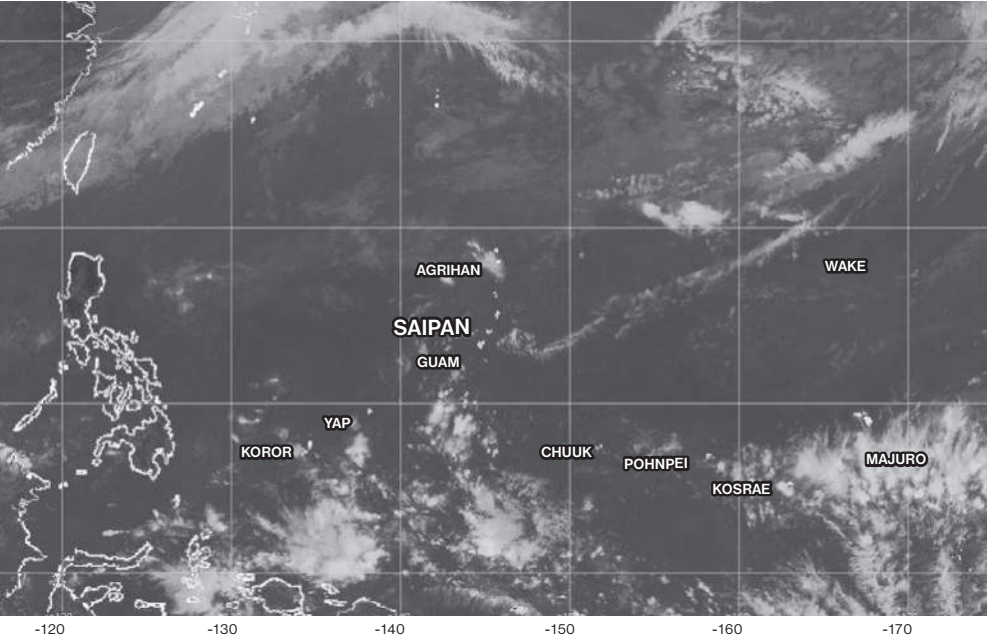
One problem is that public schools and colleges—as well as courthouses, Social Security offices and other public institutions—cannot require anyone to get a COVID vaccination until the vaccines receive final approval. Existing law demands that people be told they have the right to refuse pharmaceuticals before that stage.

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines could receive approval by autumn, but variants of the virus keep cropping up, and if the vaccine boosters to fight those variants are considered new pharmaceuticals, they may remain under emergency-use rules. Congress needs to update the law so that vaccine refusers don't have a chance to endanger those who take wise medical precautions.



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



**PICTURE TIME: 9:00 AM, THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Light easterly winds prevail over the Marianas this morning. Morning satellite imagery shows only a few clouds and showers over the area.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)*

## STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

### Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

### Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

### Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
  - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
  - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 78°	
Palau	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°	
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Cloudy	86° / 77°	
Kosrae	Showers	85° / 79°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:54 AM	6:34 PM
Saturday	5:53 AM	6:34 PM
Sunday	5:53 AM	6:34 PM
Monday	5:52 AM	6:35 PM
Tuesday	5:52 AM	6:35 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	8:29 AM	10:00 PM
Saturday	-	9:29 AM	11:03 PM
Sunday	-	10:30 AM	-
Monday	12:02 AM	11:31 AM	-
Tuesday	12:54 AM	12:29 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	66° / 58°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	66° / 44°	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	81° / 74°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	81° / 71°	
London	Partly Cloudy	55° / 37°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	85° / 62°	
Manila	Mostly Sunny	93° / 78°	
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	83° / 76°	
Miami	Mostly Sunny	85° / 73°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	68° / 46°	
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	70° / 56°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	61° / 45°	
Pusan	Mostly Sunny/Wind	69° / 49°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	78° / 57°	
Salem	Cloudy	79° / 57°	
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	62° / 52°	
Seoul	Showers	61° / 47°	
Tokyo	Sunny	73° / 58°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy/Wind	70° / 45°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:05 AM	Low Tide	1.20	
8:59 AM	High Tide	2.05	
4:23 PM	Low Tide	-0.39	
11:33 PM	High Tide	2.04	

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 29, 2021

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 4, 5, 6	UA174	4:50am	5:31am	1, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam	UA184/174	9:50pm	5:31am+1	5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	5	UA184	9:50pm	3:45am+1	5
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3,	UA184	10:25pm	4:10am+1	1, 3
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>							

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 9, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sat
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sun
ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sat
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sun
ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable

1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

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Business

FHB's new mobile app provides tools for easy money management

HONOLULU—First Hawaiian Bank (FHB) yesterday announced the launch of its new mobile banking app, available now to customers. The app provides intuitive account tools that make it easy to track spending, set monthly budgets, aggregate and view all financial accounts in one place, and receive account insights that help you manage your money. This overview of your financial health is customizable, and helps customers set and pursue financial goals, while freeing up more time to pursue life's opportunities.

» Can also lead to better financial decisions

“We’ve expanded the functionality of First Hawaiian’s mobile app, to go beyond other basic banking apps, so that our customers have easy access to tools to help them better understand and manage their finances,” said First Hawaiian Bank chairman, president, and CEO Bob Harrison. “The mobile app is intuitive and customizable to create a more personalized experience, giving our customers the power to take control of their financial lives with practical, day-to-day money management resources along with the ability to get a comprehensive view of all of their financial accounts in one place whether they be at First Hawaiian or other financial institutions.”

Managing our financial lives has become more challenging than ever. From monthly bills and mortgages to subscriptions and retirement investment



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
First Hawaiian Bank's new mobile app is another step in the bank's rollout of digital solutions to meet customers' modern banking needs, conveniently and securely.

It intuitively manages your budget for you based on your spending and savings activities, while automatically learning and utilizing the budget categories you setup.

Making informed financial decisions is a lot easier when you can view all your financial accounts in one place. The app can help with saving for college tuition, a down payment on a home or other big purchases, manage spending budgets for groceries or clothing, track merchant credits, and even notify the user if something doesn't look quite right.

FHB's new mobile app is another step in the bank's rollout of digital solutions to meet customers' modern banking needs, conveniently and securely. Earlier in the year, the bank unveiled a refreshed fhb.com website designed to connect people with financial education, easy online applications and a more personalized experience.

FHB customers can download the new app through the Apple App Store or Google Play and get training on how to use FHB Mobile app to reach their goals at fhb.com/mobilevideos. (PR)

Atkins Kroll appoints Sikat Aftersales director

TAMUNING, Guam—Wendi Herring, president of Atkins Kroll, Inc., announced yesterday the appointment of Arnold Sikat, Aftersales director, effective May 1, 2021. Sikat was previously acting Aftersales director appointed in February 2021.

“Arnold’s institutional knowledge and analytical acumen of the Aftersales Division adds significant value in upholding AK’s service quality,” said Herring. “A gold standard in delivering outstanding aftersales service is what our automotive brand partners expect of us. It is also what our valued customers deserve from Atkins Kroll,” added Herring.

Sikat has over 29 years of experience at AK. He started in June 1992 as an accounting clerk in the former Atkins Kroll Hotel & Restaurant division. During his career with AK, Sikat has served in many capacities, including efficiency analysis and management of several departments. He is a testament to AK’s commitment to employee development. His supervisory experience includes GM Service, Body & Paint, Warranty Administration, Parts,



and Toyota Rent A Car. In 2011 Sikat became the Toyota, Scion, and Lexus Service manager and was later promoted to Aftersales general manager for AK Guam and AK Saipan.

Sikat will now oversee the entire Aftersales Division, including Toyota, Lexus, BMW, and Chevrolet maintenance, warranty, and repair, as well as our Body Shop & Paint, Parts and Toyota Rent A Car/ACE Car Rental business units. Sikat will serve on leadership team and the Atkins Kroll 401K Committee.

For more information, contact: Trina Cruz, Marketing & Communications director at telephone: (671) 648-8402 or trina.cruz@ak-guam.com.

Atkins Kroll, an Inchcape company, is the leading distributor of vehicles in Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Micronesia, enabling it to provide a full range of products and services in the region. Atkins Kroll is Guam’s oldest corporation, established in 1914 and represents Toyota, Lexus, Chevrolet, BMW, Toyota Rent A Car, ACE Rent a Car, and AC Delco brands. (PR)

products, keeping track of finances can be overwhelming. The FHB mobile app makes it easy to track savings progress towards your goals, manage purchase transactions, and provides notifications about anomalies—changes in subscription rates, an unusually high utility bill, etc. so that you can spend your money where it matters most. By consolidating all of your financial data, including non-FHB accounts, on one easy-to-use platform, you can have a complete picture of your finances to help you make better decisions.

The typical basic mobile banking app allows you to transfer money between accounts, locate the nearest ATM, check account balances and make a mobile check deposit. With the new expanded functionality, FHB’s mobile app moves beyond these basic transaction functions and is unlike any other mobile banking app currently available from a Hawaii bank.

Key features of the First Hawaiian Bank mobile app include:

**Account Aggregation**—All financial accounts can be integrated in one place, even ones held at other financial institutions, including 401Ks, investments accounts, credit cards, mortgage and savings accounts, providing users a complete individualized birds-eye view of their financial holdings.

**Money Map**—The app automatically categorizes all transactions and allows customers to seamlessly manage budget categories to personalize the app for their financial objectives. For example, customers can set a monthly budget and track how much they want to spend on groceries or entertainment. The app will inform them if they are on track with these goals.

**Insights**—An automated notification system that provides artificial intelligence (AI) driven financial insights and advice. It generates an intuitive feed of notifications about the aggregated accounts on the app, and continuously improves through self-learning analytics. Insights will provide assistance with subscription management, category spending notifications, debt payment reminders, duplicate payment notifications, monthly spend comparisons and much more.

The app is customizable.

Gates aids fundraising drive for global vaccine distribution

Gates Foundation provided seed funding for the Go Give One campaign but did not launch the campaign.

A new mass fundraising campaign aims to inspire 50 million people around the world to make small donations to Covax, the international effort to push for equitable global distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations.

Called Go Give One, the campaign was launched Wednesday by the WHO Foundation and corporate, religious, and world leaders. Seed money for the effort was provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The campaign will contribute to the \$3 billion in Covax funding needed to vaccinate almost 30 percent of people in 92 low-income countries sometime next year. That support will come from donors like those who contribute to the Go Give One campaign as well as cost-sharing agreements.

Meanwhile, the \$6.3 billion that’s so far been committed to Covax has come primarily from global governments, in addition to the World Health Organization, Unicef, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

Go Give One aims to mobilize small-dollar donors around the world to give roughly \$10 each toward the cost of COVID-19 vaccines—which are priced at about \$5 a shot. The specifics of the campaign are still being ironed out, organizers said. The global campaign will collaborate with public health-care systems and individual mass vaccination sites to advertise the campaign.

Organizers also plan to involve businesses through workplace giving campaigns and promotions on corporations’ social-media platforms. Facebook has also pledged to host a fundraising campaign for the effort and match as much as \$5 million contributed through the platform.

Gavi and Unicef are already appealing for donations from individuals to support Covax, and some donors have launched their own campaigns on crowdfunding platforms. Go Give One, however, aims to jump-start a unified effort that can be replicated around the world, said Anil Soni, chief executive of the WHO Foundation. It will aim to provide companies with a simple giving platform that they can share with employees and customers.

The approach is similar to previous cross-sector campaigns to fund HIV treatment, when donors contributed small sums to provide medication to HIV-positive individuals. Soni, who spent years working at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and later the Gates Foundation and the Clinton Health Access Initiative, says those campaigns showed the difference one person can make in a global crisis. “It was that individual engagement that caused collective action that caused governments to do their part,” he said. (AP)

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW33,820.380.48%↓-164.55

S&P4,183.180.085%↓-3.54

NASDAQ14,051.030.28%↓-39.19

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	1.2827	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7624	Russian Ruble	73.4809
British Pound	0.7161	Indian Rupee	73.7877	Singapore Dollar	1.3248
Canadian Dollar	1.2304	Japanese Yen	108.5900	South Korean Won	1085.53
Chinese Yuan	6.3763	Malaysian Ringgit	4.0680	Swiss Franc	0.9093
Euro	0.8242	New Zealand Dollar	1.3766	Taiwan Dollar	27.4294
		Philippine Peso	47.5617	Thailand Baht	31.2390



# Nation

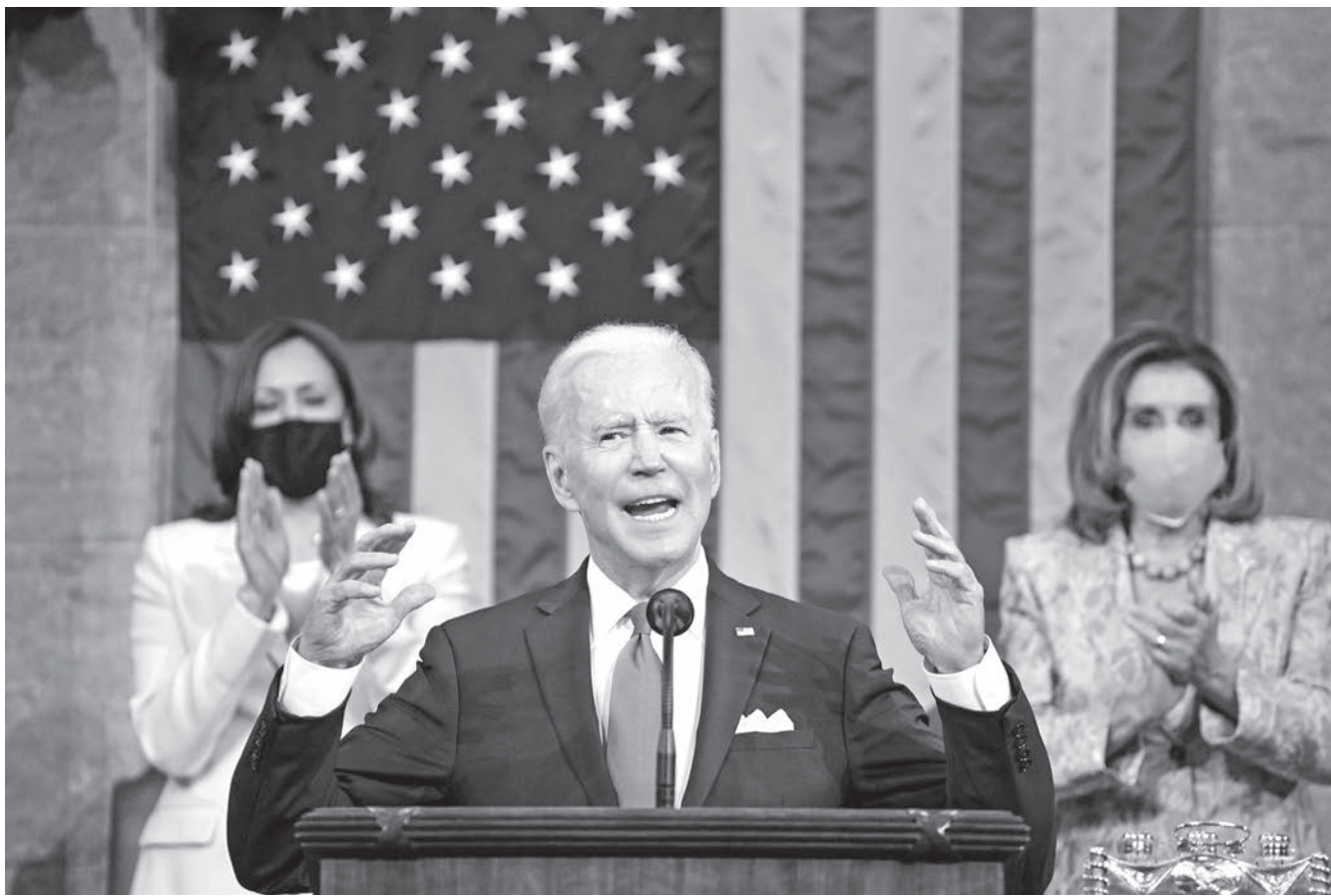
**W**ASHINGTON (AP)—President Joe Biden declared Wednesday night in his first address to a joint session of Congress that “America is rising anew,” and pointed optimistically to the nation’s emergence from the pandemic as a vital moment to rebuild the U.S. economy and fundamentally transform government roles in American life.

Biden marked his first 100 days in office as the nation pushes out of a menacing mix of crises, making his case before a pared-down gathering of mask-wearing legislators because of pandemic restrictions.

Speaking in highly personal terms while demanding massive structural changes, the president urged a \$1.8 trillion investment in children, families and education to help rebuild an economy devastated by the virus and compete with rising global competitors.

He speech took place in a setting unlike any other presidential address in the familiar venue, with the U.S. Capitol still surrounded by fencing after the building was stormed in January by insurrectionists protesting his election. The nationally televised ritual of a president standing before Congress for the first time was one of the most watched moments of Biden’s presidency so far, a chance to sell his plans to voters of both parties, even if Republican lawmakers prove resistant.

“America is ready for takeoff. We are working again. Dreaming again. Discovering again. Leading the world again. We have shown each other and the world: There is no quit in Amer-



Vice President Kamala Harris, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif., stand and applaud as President Joe Biden addresses a joint session of Congress, Wednesday, April 28, 2021, in the House Chamber at the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

## Biden to the nation, world: ‘AMERICA IS RISING ANEW’

ica,” Biden said.

“I can report to the nation: America is on the move again,” he said. “Turning peril into possibility. Crisis into opportunity. Setback into strength.”

This year’s scene at the front of the House chamber had a historic look: For the first time, a female vice president, Kamala Harris, was seated behind the chief executive. And she was next to another woman, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, both clad in pastel.

The first ovation came as

Biden greeted, “Madam Vice President.” He added “No president has ever said those words from this podium, and it’s about time.”

The scene was familiar yet strange, with members of Congress spread out, a sole Supreme Court justice in attendance and many Republicans citing “scheduling conflicts” to stay away. There was no need for a “designated survivor,” with so many Cabinet members not there, and the chamber was

so sparsely populated that individual claps could be heard echoing off the walls.

Biden was upbeat and forceful.

“I have never been more confident or more optimistic about America,” he said. “We have stared into an abyss of insurrection and autocracy—of pandemic and pain—and ‘We the People’ did not flinch.”

He repeatedly hammered home how his plans would put Americans back to work, restoring millions of jobs

lost to the virus. He laid out a sweeping proposal for universal preschool, two years of free community college, \$225 billion for child care and monthly payments of at least \$250 to parents. His ideas target frailties that were uncovered by the pandemic, and he argues that that economic growth will best come from taxing the rich to help the middle class and the poor.

For Biden, whose moment has been nearly a half century in the making, his speech

also provided an update on combating the COVID-19 crisis he was elected to tame, showcasing hundreds of millions of vaccinations and relief checks delivered to help offset the devastation wrought by a virus that has killed more than 573,000 people in the United States. He also championed his \$2.3 trillion infrastructure plan, a staggering figure to be financed by higher taxes on corporations.

Unimpressed, Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina said in the Republicans’ designated response that Biden was claiming too much credit in fighting the pandemic and reviving the economy.

“This administration inherited a tide that had already turned,” Scott said. “The coronavirus is on the run.”

Seizing an opportunity born of calamity, Biden has embraced major action over incremental change. But he will be forced to thread a needle between Republicans who cry government overreach and some Democrats who fear he won’t go big enough.

The Democratic president’s strategy is to sidestep polarization and appeal directly to voters. His prime-time speech underscored a trio of central campaign promises: to manage the deadly pandemic, to turn down the tension in Washington in the aftermath of the insurrection and to restore faith in government as an effective force for good.

Biden also was addressing an issue rarely confronted by an American president, namely that in order to compete with autocracies like China, the nation needs “to prove that democracy still works” after his predecessor’s baseless claims of election fraud and the ensuing attack on the U.S. Capitol.

## Harris, Pelosi make history seated behind Biden at speech

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Vice President Kamala Harris and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi made history Wednesday as the first women—one of them Black and Indian American—to share the stage in Congress during a presidential address.

President Joe Biden noted the historic development at the very opening of his address. After taking the podium, Biden greeted the two women standing behind him with a “Madam Speaker” and “Madam Vice President.”

He then declared, “No president has ever said those words—and it’s about time.”

Biden delivered his first prime-time speech to a joint session of Congress on Wednesday night flanked by

Pelosi and Harris, two California Democrats.

The two began the night with another historic moment: An elbow-bump hello, a pandemic spin on the traditional handshake. Pelosi and Harris stood side by side behind the dais in the House chamber, chatting with each other and occasionally waving to lawmakers as the group waited for Biden to arrive.

“It’s pretty exciting. And it’s wonderful to make history. It’s about time,” Pelosi said hours before the speech during an interview on MSNBC.

Pelosi already knows what it feels like to sit on the rostrum in the House chamber and introduce a president for their speeches. She has sat there

for several addresses by Presidents George W. Bush, Barack Obama and Donald Trump.

Women’s advocates said seeing Harris and Pelosi seated together behind Biden will be a “beautiful moment.” But they noted that electing a woman to sit in the Oval Office remains to be achieved, along with the addition of an equal rights amendment to the Constitution.

Biden helped usher the moment along by pledging to pick a woman for his running mate and selecting Harris, then a U.S. senator from California.

“This is a great start and we have to continue to move forward to give women their equal due,” said Christian Nunes, president of the National Orga-

nization for Women.

Pelosi made history by becoming the first female House speaker during Republican Bush’s presidency. He acknowledged the moment by noting during his address to Congress after Pelosi’s election that he had the privilege of being the first president to open with the words “madam speaker.”

Pelosi, 81, reclaimed the powerful leadership post during Republican Trump’s presidency and sat behind him during his final two speeches to Congress, famously ripping up her copy of Trump’s remarks in 2020 as cameras continued to roll after he was finished addressing lawmakers.

Harris, 56, made history last year when she became the first

woman and first Black and Indian American person elected vice president. In her role as president of the Senate, she joins Pelosi to preside over the joint session of Congress.

Debbie Walsh, director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, said Wednesday night will show men, women, boys and girls that women can attain and hold high-level positions and that they are as entitled to them as men are.

Walsh also noted Biden’s promise to put a woman on his ticket, and pointed as well to the diversity of his Cabinet. She said Biden was likely to begin the speech by turning around to face Pelosi and Harris and feeling proud—not just personally, “but I also think proud for the country and

proud for his party and I think he will clearly see the historic implications of this and the role that he played in making that happen.”

“For all of us who care about women’s public leadership, we still look forward to the day when the person standing at the podium, in front, is a woman,” Walsh added. “But for now this is a particularly gratifying moment.”

Harris’ office declined comment Wednesday on her historic role in the president’s address, preferring to let the moment speak for itself.

Apart from the speech Wednesday, Harris and Pelosi have notched another first in U.S. and women’s history. They are first and second, respectively, in the line of presidential succession.



# Asia

## India grieves 200K dead with many more probably uncounted

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—Three days after his coronavirus symptoms appeared, Rajendra Karan struggled to breathe. Instead of waiting for an ambulance, his son drove him to a government hospital in Lucknow, the capital of India's largest state.

But the hospital wouldn't let him in without a registration slip from the district's chief medical officer. By the time the son got it, his father had died in the car, just outside the hospital doors.

"My father would have been alive today if the hospital had just admitted him instead of waiting for a piece of paper," Rohitas Karan said.

Stories of deaths tangled in bureaucracy and breakdowns have become dismally common in India, where deaths on Wednesday officially surged past 200,000. But the true death toll is believed to be far higher.

In India, mortality data was poor even before the pandemic, with most people dying at home and their deaths often going unregistered. The practice is particularly prevalent in rural areas, where the virus is now spreading fast.

This is partly why this nation of nearly 1.4 billion has recorded fewer deaths than Brazil and Mexico, which have smaller populations and fewer confirmed COVID-19 cases.



**AP**  
A health worker gives cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to a COVID-19 patient waiting to be attended to inside an ambulance outside a government COVID-19 hospital in Ahmedabad, India, Tuesday, April 27, 2021.

While determining exact numbers in a pandemic is difficult, experts say an overreliance on official data that didn't reflect the true extent of infections contributed to authorities being blindsided by a huge surge in recent weeks.

"People who could have been saved are dying now," said Gautam Menon, a professor of physics and biology at Ashoka University. Menon

said there has been "serious undercounting" of deaths in many states.

India had thought the worst was over when cases ebbed in September. But infections began increasing in February, and on Wednesday, 362,757 new confirmed cases, a global record, pushed the country's total past 17.9 million, second only to the U.S.

Local media have reported discrepancies between official state tallies of the dead and actual numbers of bodies in crematoriums and burial grounds. Many crematoriums have spilled over into parking lots and other empty spaces as blazing funeral pyres light up

the night sky.

India's daily deaths, which have nearly tripled in the past three weeks, also reflect a shattered and underfunded health care system. Hospitals are scrambling for more oxygen, beds, ventilators and ambulances, while families marshal their own resources in the absence of a functioning system.

Jitender Singh Shunty runs an ambulance service in New Delhi transporting COVID-19 victims' bodies to a temporary crematorium in a parking lot. He said those who die at home are generally unaccounted for in state tallies, while the number of bodies has increased from 10 to nearly 50 daily.

"When I go home, my clothes smell of burnt flesh. I have never seen so many dead bodies in my life," Shunty said.

Burial grounds are also filling up fast. The capital's largest Muslim graveyard is running out of space, said Mohammad Shameem, the head gravedigger, noting he was now burying nearly 40 bodies a day.

In southern Telangana state too, doctors and activists are contesting the official death counts.

On April 23, the state said 33 people had died of COVID-19. But between 80 to 100 people died in just two hospi-

tals in the state's capital, Hyderabad, the day before. It is unclear whether all were due to the virus, but experts say COVID-19 deaths across India aren't being listed as such.

Instead, many are attributed to underlying conditions despite national guidelines asking states to record all suspected COVID-19 deaths, even if the patient wasn't tested for the virus.

For instance, New Delhi officially recorded 4,000 COVID-19 deaths by Aug. 31, but this didn't include suspected deaths, according to data accessed by The Associated Press under a right-to-information request. Fatalities have since more than tripled to over 14,500. Officials didn't respond to queries on whether suspected deaths are now being included.

In Lucknow, officials said 39 people died of the virus in the city on Tuesday. But Suresh Chandra, who operates its Bhaisakhund electric crematorium, said his team had cremated 58 COVID-19 bodies by Tuesday evening, and 28 more were cremated at a nearby crematorium the same day.

Ajay Dwivedi, a government official in Lucknow, acknowledged more bodies were being cremated but said they included corpses from other districts.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### PH extends virus lockdown to mid-May

**MANILA, Philippines**—The Philippines is extending an already monthlong lockdown by two weeks as the country's worst coronavirus infection spike starts to ease but remains alarming. President Rodrigo Duterte said in televised remarks Thursday night that the second-most restrictive lockdown level will now run through May 14 in metropolitan Manila and four nearby provinces, a region of more than 25 million people. Mayors, however, cut a nine-hour night curfew in metropolitan Manila to six hours to help battered businesses. Duterte is warning mayors and village chiefs that they face jail if they don't prevent gatherings and other events that violate the pandemic restrictions. Confirmed coronavirus infections in the Philippines soared past 1 million Monday, with deaths now at more than 17,000, the second highest in Southeast Asia.

#### 2 children killed, 16 people stabbed at China kindergarten

**BEIJING (AP)**—Chinese state media say two children were killed and 16 other people were injured by a knife-wielding attacker at a kindergarten in a southern city. The Xinhua News Agency said the attack occurred Wednesday afternoon in a township outside Beiliu, a city in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. It said a suspect has been arrested and an investigation is underway. Two of those injured were being treated for serious injuries, it said. It was clear if the injured were children or adults. Past years have seen numerous such attacks, usually perpetrated by people who were described as mentally or emotionally disturbed or who bore grudges against the owners of such facilities. Experts say China lacks sufficient capacity to diagnose and treat people with such conditions. The country tightly restricts access to guns, so knives are almost always used in such attacks.

**JAYAPURA, Indonesia** (AP)—An Indonesian police officer and five Papuan independence fighters were killed in an ongoing clash between security forces and a rebel group in restive Papua province, authorities said Wednesday.

The clashes began early this month in Indonesia's easternmost Papua province after rebels set fire to several schools and shot to death two teachers in Beoga village in Puncak district.

Police, military and intelligence forces joined together to find the attackers, who authorities believe belong to the West Papua Liberation Army, the military wing of the Free Papua Organization.

Rebels in Papua have been fighting a low-level insurgency since the early 1960s, when Indonesia annexed the region, a former Dutch colony. Papua

was formally incorporated into Indonesia in 1969 after a U.N.-sponsored ballot that was seen as a sham by many.

Papua police chief Mathius Fakhiri said a joint military and police force killed five of the Papuan fighters in a battle with dozens of rebels armed with military-grade weapons as well as axes and arrows in Makki village Tuesday. He said a police officer was shot at his stomach and died while two others were injured.

Security forces managed to evacuate the body and injured officers to a hospital in nearby Mimika district near the mining town of Tembagapura on Tuesday while the joint force was hunting other rebels who fled to the jungle, Fakhiri said.

Sebby Sambom, a spokesman for the liberation army, who was earlier confirmed the police claim, changed his

statement after receiving latest information from a National Liberation Army of West Papua commander, Lekagak Telenggen, who told him that all five victims who died during the clash were civilians.

"There are no casualties on our side, this is all public deception," Sambom said. "Indonesian security forces have stormed several villages in Puncak district and shot villagers, many died and injured."

Tuesday's clash happened two days after Papua's intelligence agency chief Brig. Gen. Gusti Putu Danny Nugraha was shot in his head and died in a rebel ambush. The ambush occurred while the general was patrolling Dambet village in Puncak district with 13 other personnel on motorcycle after rebels set fire to an elementary school and houses

in the village.

President Joko Widodo has ordered government forces to hunt down the rebels.

"I emphasize that there is no place for armed criminal groups in Papua and in all corners of the country," Widodo said in televised remarks on Monday.

Attacks by rebels in several districts in Papua have spiked in the past year, including in the Grasberg mine.

The Grasberg mine's vast gold and copper reserves have been exploited for decades by U.S.-based Freeport-McMoran, damaging the surrounding environment while providing significant tax income for the Indonesian government.

But indigenous Papuans have benefited little and are poorer, sicker and more likely to die young than people elsewhere in Indonesia.



## World

## Russian minister: US-Russia ties worse than during Cold War

**MOSCOW (AP)**—Russia's top diplomat said Wednesday that relations with the United States are now even worse than during Cold War times because of a lack of mutual respect.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Moscow stands ready to normalize ties with Washington but that the U.S. should stop posturing like a "sovereign" while rallying its allies against Russia and China.

Lavrov said if the U.S. shuns a mutually respectful dialogue on the basis of a balance of interests, "we would live in conditions of a Cold War or worse."

"During the Cold War, the tensions were flying high, and risky crisis situations often emerged, but there was also a mutual respect," Lavrov said in a Russian state television interview. "It seems to me there is a deficit of it now."

Earlier this month, the Biden administration slapped



**AP**  
Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov speaks during a joint news conference with Mexican Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard following their talks in Moscow, Russia, Wednesday, April 28, 2021.

leave, blacklisting eight current and former U.S. officials and tightening requirements for U.S. Embassy operations.

As part of the restrictions, Russia moved to ban the U.S. Embassy and its consulates from hiring Russian citizens and third country nationals. Similar bans would also be applied to other nations designated as "unfriendly."

Lavrov said Wednesday that a list of those countries will be published soon to formalize the decision.

Speaking in the interview with a Russian state TV host, Lavrov noted that Moscow has had a "positive" attitude to Biden's proposal to hold a summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin, but added that Russia still needs to analyze all aspects of the initiative.

Lavrov said he would attend a meeting of top diplomats of the Arctic nations in Iceland set for next month and would be ready to meet with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken if he also joins the meeting.

## US Navy fires warning shots in new tense encounter with Iran

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)**—An American warship fired warning shots when vessels of Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard came too close to a patrol in the Persian Gulf, the U.S. Navy said Wednesday. It was the first such shooting in nearly four years.

The Navy released black-and-white footage of the encounter Monday night in international waters of the northern reaches of the Persian Gulf near Kuwait, Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. In it, lights can be seen in the distance and what appears to be a single gunshot can be heard, with a tracer round racing across the top of the water.

Iran did not immediately acknowledge the incident.

The Navy said the Cyclone-class patrol ship USS Firebolt fired the warning shots after three fast-attack Guard vessels came within 68 yards (62 meters) of it and the U.S. Coast Guard patrol boat USCGC Baranoff.

"The U.S. crews issued multiple warnings via bridge-to-bridge radio and loud-hailer devices, but the (Guard) vessels continued their close range maneuvers," said Cmdr. Rebecca Rebarich, a spokeswoman for the Mideast-based 5th Fleet. "The crew of Firebolt then fired warning shots, and the (Guard) vessels moved away to a safe distance from the U.S. vessels."

She called on the Guard to

"operate with due regard for the safety of all vessels as required by international law."

"U.S. naval forces continue to remain vigilant and are trained to act in a professional manner, while our commanding officers retain the inherent right to act in self-defense," she said.

The last time a Navy vessel fired warning shots in the Persian Gulf in an incident involving Iran was in July 2017, when the USS Thunderbolt, a sister ship to the Firebolt, fired to warn off a Guard vessel. Regulations issued last year give Navy commanders the authority to take "lawful defensive measures" against vessels in the Mideast that come within 100 meters (yards) of their warships.

While 100 meters may seem far to someone standing at a distance, it's incredibly close for large warships that have difficulty in turning quickly, like aircraft carriers. Even smaller vessels can collide with each other at sea, risking the ships.

The incident Monday marked the second time the Navy accused the Guard of operating in an "unsafe and unprofessional" manner this month alone after tense encounters between the forces had dropped in recent years.

Footage released Tuesday by the Navy showed a ship commanded by the Guard cut in front of the USCGC Monomoy, causing the Coast

Guard vessel to come to an abrupt stop with its engine smoking on April 2.

The Guard also did the same with another Coast Guard vessel, the USCGC Wrangell, Rebarich said.

The interaction marked the first "unsafe and unprofessional" incident involving the Iranians since April 15, 2020, Rebarich said. However, Iran had largely stopped such incidents in 2018 and nearly in the entirety of 2019, she said.

In 2017, the Navy recorded 14 instances of what it describes as "unsafe and unprofessional" interactions with Iranian forces. It recorded 35 in 2016, and 23 in 2015.

The incidents at sea almost always involve the Revolutionary Guard, which reports only to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Typically, they involve Iranian speedboats armed with deck-mounted machine guns and rocket launchers test-firing weapons or shadowing American aircraft carriers passing through the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf through which 20% of all oil passes.

Some analysts believe the incidents are meant in part to squeeze President Hassan Rouhani's administration after the 2015 nuclear deal. They include a 2016 incident in which Iranian forces captured and held overnight 10 U.S. sailors who strayed into the Islamic Republic's territorial waters.

Russia with sanctions for interfering in the 2020 U.S. presidential election and for involvement in the SolarWind hack of federal agencies—activities Moscow has denied.

The U.S. ordered 10 Russian diplomats expelled, targeted dozens of companies and people and imposed new

curbs on Russia's ability to borrow money. While ordering the sanctions, U.S. President Joe Biden also called for de-escalating tensions and held the door open for cooperation with Russia in certain areas.

Russia quickly retaliated by ordering 10 U.S. diplomats to

## WORLD BRIEFS

## Pope ousts leadership of Ecuadorian diocese amid complaints

**ROME (AP)**—Pope Francis responded Wednesday to reports of poor governance, financial mismanagement and moral failings in the Ecuadorian diocese of Riobamba by not only accepting the resignation of the retiring bishop but that of his heir apparent as well. Francis on Wednesday accepted the resignations of Bishop Julio Parrilla Diaz, who turned 75 last month, and his deputy, Monsignor Gerardo Miguel Nieves Loja, 53. Nieves had been named "co-adjutor bishop" for Riobamba last year and was due to be consecrated bishop in February, to take over when Parrilla retired at 75, the normal retirement age for bishops. But Nieves offered his resignation to Francis a week before the ceremony. Parrilla confirmed Nieves' resignation in a Feb. 19 letter to his flock, reproduced by the Spanish-language Catholic agency Religion Digital. In it, Parrilla said he understood Nieves' decision and noted that 500 people had signed a letter in support of him.

## South Africa's Ramaphosa says corruption has damaged country

**JOHANNESBURG (AP)**—Rampant corruption has seriously damaged South Africa's economy and people's trust in the government, President Cyril Ramaphosa testified Wednesday at a judicial inquiry into graft in the country. Ramaphosa was speaking at the commission investigating "state capture," the term for the corruption under former President Jacob Zuma's tenure in which his associates in the Gupta

family allegedly won control of the much of the state and its finances. "State capture and corruption have taken a great toll on our society and indeed on our economy as well," Ramaphosa said. "They have eroded the values of our constitution and undermines the rule of law. If allowed to continue they would threaten the achievement of growth, development and transformation of our country." Ramaphosa spoke at the commission to investigate corruption during Zuma's time as president from 2009 until 2018, when he was forced out of office by widespread allegations of graft.

## UN urges global support for volcano-erupting St. Vincent

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)**—The U.N. General Assembly approved a resolution Wednesday expressing solidarity and support for St. Vincent and urging continued financial help for the eastern Caribbean island as it deals with volcanic eruptions. The resolution, adopted by consensus in the 193-member world body, also asks U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to support rehabilitation efforts in St. Vincent and neighboring countries affected by the volcano. Last week, the U.N. announced it is seeking \$29.2 million to help St. Vincent recover from the eruptions that have destroyed homes and crops, contaminated water supplies and displaced up to 20% of its people. More than 16,000 people were evacuated ahead of the first explosion at La Soufriere volcano on April 9. Officials say ash is piled up to 16 inches (42 centimeters) high on some homes in the northern part of St. Vincent, where the volcano sits.



# Off The Wall

## Prototype of 1st US dollar coins auctioned for \$840,000



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

This undated photo provided by Heritage Auctions shows the front of a piece of copper that was struck by the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia in 1794 and was a prototype for the fledgling nation's money.

EMILY CLEMENTS/HERITAGE AUCTIONS VIA AP

(AP)—A piece of copper that was struck by the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia in 1794 and was a prototype for the fledgling nation's money was auctioned off for \$840,000, considerably more than expected, an official said.

Heritage auctions spokesman Eric Bradley said the "No Stars Flowing Hair Dollar" opened at \$312,000 when it was put up Friday evening but "in less than a minute, intense bidding quickly pushed the coin to its final auction price of \$840,000."

The coin, formerly owned by businessman and Texas Rangers co-chairman Bob Simpson, had been expected to sell for \$350,000 to \$500,000, Bradley said.

While it closely resembles silver dollars that were later minted in Philadelphia, it gets its name because it is missing

stars. Jacob Lipson of Heritage Auctions said earlier that starless coins are considered by collectors and institutions as "one-of-a-kind prototypes for the silver examples that would follow."

Known as a pattern, the front features the flowing hair portrait of Liberty and the date 1794, while the reverse side shows a small eagle on a rock within a wreath. Similar starless examples are part of the Smithsonian Institution's Na-

tional Numismatic Collection.

The pattern was forgotten as the Mint continued the process of creating the nation's first silver dollars.

"Coin collecting lore states the unique rarity was excavated from the site of the first Philadelphia Mint before 1876," Lipson said. That was how the coin's first owner described its history at its first auction appearance in 1890.

The pattern is corroded and not in perfect condition,

Lipson said, likely because it was buried at the site of the original Mint. There are some scratches and other marks on its brown surfaces. It has traded hands eight times, according to the auction house.

Simpson, 73, purchased it along with other patterns in 2008 to add to his large collection.

"I think coins should be appreciated almost as artwork," he said. "I have gotten more than enough joy from them."

## Bones dating back to ice age found in Las Vegas backyard

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—A couple in Las Vegas said they will have to wait to continue building their pool after construction crews unearthed a set of bones dating back to Earth's most recent ice age.

Matt Perkins and his husband, who recently moved from Washington state to a newly built home in Nevada, said police and crime scene investigators showed up Monday at their home to analyze the bones.

"The pool guy said he was going to come to check out the pool," Perkins told KTNV-

TV. "We assume that was normal, we wake up he's out front with the police."

The pool builders discovered the bones about five feet (1.5 meters) below ground. After an investigation, police said the bones did not belong to a human and raised no law enforcement concerns.

Nevada Science Center Research Director Joshua Bonde said the bones are between 6,000 and 14,000 years old and are those of a horse or similar large mammal.

Bonde said the area where they were found was fed by

natural springs and served as a watering spot for wildlife in the arid Mohave Desert about 14,000 years ago.

The backyard discovery came near Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument, where rare fossils such as mammoths have been unearthed before.

If people are digging in their backyard, it shouldn't be a surprise when they hit something," Bonde said. He also noted that the U.S. has laws that discovered fossils belong to property owners.

Perkins is now deciding how best to preserve the fossil.

## Girl Scout cookies take flight in Virginia drone deliveries

(AP)—Missing out on Thin Mints in the pandemic? A Google affiliate is using drones to deliver Girl Scout cookies to people's doorsteps in a Virginia community.

The town of Christiansburg has been a testing ground for commercial delivery drones operated by Wing, a subsidiary of Google's corporate parent Alphabet.

Now the company is adding the iconic boxed cookies to the more mundane drugstore offerings, FedEx packages and locally-made pastries, tacos and cold brew coffees it's been hauling to a thinly populated area of residential subdivisions since 2019.

Wing said it began talking to local Girl Scout troops because they've been having a harder time selling cookies during the pandemic, when fewer people are out and about. The organization jumped on the new twist to its skills-building mission.

"I'm excited that I get to be a part of history," said 11-year-old Gracie Walker, of the Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Troop 224. "People are going to realize and be, like, 'Hey, this is better for the environment and I can just walk outside in my pajamas and get cookies.'"

It's the latest attempt to build public enthusiasm for futuristic drone delivery as Wing competes against Amazon, Walmart, UPS and others to overcome the many technical and regulatory challenges of flying packages over neighborhoods.

Federal officials started rolling out new rules in mid-April that will allow operators to fly

small drones over people and at night, potentially giving a boost to commercial use of the machines. Most drones will need to be equipped so they can be identified remotely by law enforcement officials.

The 10-pound Wing drone that made the first deliveries in Christiansburg in fall 2019 is already an artifact held at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. Whether it will go down in history as a revolutionary innovation or a utopian flop remains to be seen.

Amazon has also been working on drone delivery for years. In 2013, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos said in a TV interview that drones would be flying to customer's homes within five years, but that deadline has long since passed. The company did win government approval to deliver packages by drones last August, but Amazon said it was still testing them and hasn't started delivering goods to shoppers yet.

David Vos, an aerospace engineer who led Google's Wing

project until 2016, said he has been surprised that drone delivery ventures haven't taken off more quickly.

"I thought it was completely doable to be up and going by 2021," Vos said. While he still thinks drone technology is getting closer to delivering the size, weight and power needed to transport goods safely in populated places, Vos said the tech industry also needs a cultural shift.

In particular, he said, it needs to bring on people from the traditional aviation industry who have experience building "safety-critical systems" that meet strict performance standards.

Wing's drones are able to navigate autonomously—without a human pilot controlling them remotely—and are powered by two forward propellers on their wings and 12 smaller vertical propellers. When a drone reaches its destination, it hovers above the front lawn as a tether releases to drop the package.



In this April 14, 2021 image provided by Wing LLC., Girl Scouts Alice, right, and Gracie pose with a Wing delivery drone in Christiansburg, Va. The company is testing drone delivery of Girl Scout cookies in the area.

SAM DEAN/ WING LLC VIA AP

IN CELEBRATION OF

*First Death Anniversary*

OF OUR DEAR BELOVED

**†Faustino Mettao Olopai**

ALSO KNOWN AS "TINO" OR "TINONG".

The family would like to invite our friends and relatives to join us in daily mass according to the schedule below:

<p><b>April 30th and May 1st:</b></p> <p>6:00 am Mt. Carmel</p> <p>6:00 pm at Saint Jude, San Jose, Santa Soledad and Santa Remedios Church</p>	<p><b>May 3rd:</b></p> <p>6:00 am Mt. Carmel</p> <p>6:00 pm Saint Jude, San Jose and Santa Remedios Church</p>
<p><b>May 2nd:</b></p> <p>8:00 am at Saint Jude Church,</p> <p>9:00 am Mt. Carmel</p> <p>9:00 am San Jose Church;</p> <p>10:30 am Santa Soledad;</p> <p>and 7:00 am Santa Remedios Church</p>	<p><b>May 4th - 7th</b></p> <p>6:00 am Mt. Carmel</p> <p>6:00 pm Saint Jude, San Jose, Santa Soledad and Santa Remedios Church</p>
<p><b>May 8th</b></p> <p>6:00 am Mt. Carmel</p> <p>6:00 pm Saint Jude Church</p>	

On the last day, immediately after the mass, a dinner will be served at the family residence in As Lito.

Your presence, prayers and support will be greatly appreciated.

Ghilisow, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank you

*The Family*

Jean; Ron; Michele, Dan, Omari, DJ and Theo



# Science & Technology

## China to launch Heavenly Harmony space station core module

BEIJING (AP)—China plans to launch the core module for its first permanent space station this week in the latest big step forward for the country's space exploration program.

The Tianhe, or "Heavenly Harmony" module is set to be hurtled into space aboard a Long March 5B rocket from the Wenchang Launch Center on the southern island of Hainan. The launch could come as early as Thursday night if all goes as planned.

It would be the first of 11 missions to build and supply the space station for a three-person crew.

Here's a look at the planned launch and the past and future of China's space program.

### 11 MISSIONS PLANNED TO COMPLETE SPACE STATION BY END OF 2022

Another 10 launches will send up two more modules; four cargo supply shipments and four missions with crews. At least 12 astronauts are training to fly to and live in the station, including veterans of previous flights, newcomers and women.

When completed by late

2022, Tianhe is expected to weigh about 66 tons, a fraction the size of the International Space Station, which launched its first module in 1998 and will weigh about 450 tons when completed. Tianhe will have a docking port and will also be able to connect with a powerful Chinese space satellite. Theoretically, it could be expanded with more modules.

Tianhe's main module will initially be about the size of the American Skylab space station of the 1970s and the former Soviet/Russian Mir, which operated for more than 14 years after launching in 1986.

### SPACE STATION A LONG-TERM GOAL

China has launched two experimental modules over the past decade in preparation for a permanent station. One, Tiangong-1, which means "Heavenly Palace-1" was abandoned and burned up during an uncontrolled loss of orbit. Its successor, Tiangong-2, was successfully taken out of orbit in 2018.

China began preparations for a space station in the early 1990s as its space program

gained momentum. It was excluded from the International Space Station largely due to U.S. objections over the Chinese program's secretive nature and close military ties.

### SPEEDY PROGRESS IN SPACE

After years of successful rocket and commercial satellite launches, China put its first astronaut into space in October 2003. It was only the third country to independently do so after the former Soviet Union and the United States. Since that Shenzhou 5 mission, China has sent other astronauts into orbit, placed crews on the original Tiangong station and conducted a space walk.

It also has increased cooperation with space experts from other countries, including France, Sweden, Russia and Italy. NASA must get permission from a reluctant Congress to engage in such contacts.

China also has pushed ahead with crewless missions, particularly in lunar exploration and has landed a rover on the little-explored far side of the Moon. In December, its Chang'e 5 probe returned lunar rocks to

Earth for the first time since the U.S. missions of the 1970s.

### MARS ROVER AND FUTURE AMBITIONS

The Tianhe mission comes just weeks before a Chinese probe is due to land on Mars, which would make China only the second country to successfully

accomplish that after the U.S. The Tianwen-1 space probe has been orbiting the red planet since February while collecting data. Its Zhurong rover will be looking for evidence of life.

Another Chinese program aims to collect soil from an asteroid, a key focus of Japan's space program.

China plans another mission in 2024 to bring back lunar samples and has said it wants to land people on the moon and possibly build a scientific base there. No timeline has been proposed for such projects. A highly secretive space plane is also reportedly under development.

## Satellites show world's glaciers melting faster than ever

Glaciers are melting faster, losing 31% more snow and ice per year than they did 15 years earlier, according to three-dimensional satellite measurements of all the world's mountain glaciers.

Scientists blame human-caused climate change.

Using 20 years of recently declassified satellite data, scientists calculated that the world's 220,000 mountain glaciers are losing more than 328 billion tons (298 billion metric tons) of ice and snow per year since 2015, according to a study in Wednesday's journal Nature. That's enough melt flowing into the world's rising oceans to put Switzerland un-

der almost 24 feet (7.2 meters) of water each year.

The annual melt rate from 2015 to 2019 is 78 billion more tons (71 billion metric tons) a year than it was from 2000 to 2004. Global thinning rates, different than volume of water lost, doubled in the last 20 years and "that's enormous," said Romain Hugonnet, a glaciologist at ETH Zurich and the University of Toulouse in France who led the study.

Half the world's glacial loss is coming from the United States and Canada.

Alaska's melt rates are "among the highest on the planet," with the Columbia glacier retreating about 115

feet (35 meters) a year, Hugonnet said.

Almost all the world's glaciers are melting, even ones in Tibet that used to be stable, the study found. Except for a few in Iceland and Scandinavia that are fed by increased precipitation, the melt rates are accelerating around the world.

The near-uniform melting "mirrors the global increase in temperature" and is from the burning of coal, oil and gas, Hugonnet said. Some smaller glaciers are disappearing entirely. Two years ago, scientists, activists and government officials in Iceland held a funeral for a small glacier. (AP)

## TECH Q&A: Why e-mailed photos are sometimes sideways, and how to fix it

**Q: My son e-mails me photos from his iPhone, but sometimes the photos are sideways in the e-mail and I don't see any way to correct it. (When this happens with e-mails from other people, I can correct it.) I'm using Windows 7 (I'm not having any problems with it). What should I do?**

**A:** When the iPhone takes a photo, it includes orientation information about how the picture should be displayed. This information (called metadata) is stored with the photo, and travels along with the picture when the photo is e-mailed. So, in theory, the e-mail recipient should always see the photo right side up.

But three things can go wrong: The orientation information can be lost when the photo is e-mailed. The photo's orientation information may have been wrong in the first place. Or the recipient's e-mail software may not be able to read the orientation information.

The only one of these factors you can control is your e-mail software. If you download your Charter Communications e-mail to a PC-based e-mail program such as Microsoft Outlook or Mozilla Thunderbird, check to see if there are any updates for the PC software. (See [tinyurl.com/e42dy3hk](http://tinyurl.com/e42dy3hk) for Outlook, and see [tinyurl.com/hrb5w7nw](http://tinyurl.com/hrb5w7nw) for Thunderbird.) If you have Outlook 2013 or newer, you should

By STEVE ALEXANDER  
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: [steve.j.alexander@gmail.com](mailto:steve.j.alexander@gmail.com). Please include a full name, city and phone number.



be able to rotate a sideways photo in an e-mail you receive (see [tinyurl.com/pws4r52b](http://tinyurl.com/pws4r52b)).

The ultimate solution is to download the e-mailed photo to your PC, then use the Windows 7 Paint program to rotate it (see [tinyurl.com/8h3ubfvu](http://tinyurl.com/8h3ubfvu)).

I doubt that this problem is related to your use of Windows 7. But you are taking a big security risk by continuing to use an operating system that no longer gets Microsoft security updates.

**Q: When my LG phone got upgraded to the Android 11 operating system, its ability to connect to my car's Android Auto software changed — the sound became hard to hear or inaudible. I understand that this is a known software compatibility problem between Android 11 and Android Auto, but Google hasn't fixed it and I can't find a workaround. What can I do?**

**A:** Google says it's working on the problem. In the meantime, the only available workaround is to disconnect your phone from your car software,

then connect them again.

To do that, open your phone's Settings and in the search window type Android Auto. In the resulting menu, click Android Auto, then click "Previously connected cars." Click the three dots on the upper right corner of the screen, then click "Forget all cars." Then set up your phone-to-car connection again.

Danny Anthony of Plymouth, Minn., disagreed with my warning last week that unsolicited e-mails that appear to be from computer firms should be treated as scams. He said he receives useful unsolicited corporate e-mails containing privacy-policy updates. To be clear, privacy-related e-mails aren't unsolicited. Customers agree to receive them when they sign up to use computer services. I was warning about unsolicited e-mails that seem to come from legitimate computer companies but contain malware warnings, bills for services or offers of technical help—legitimate firms don't send e-mails like that.

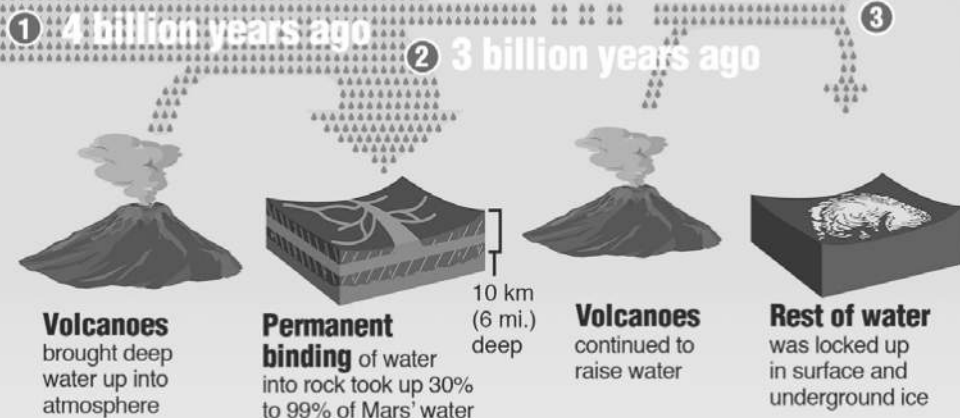
### Science Matters

## Mars' water, long locked into rock

The surface of Mars bears clear signs of ancient seas. A new analysis concluded that not all of that water escaped into space; much was incorporated into layers of Mars' rocks.

This model of Mars' past is based on geological and chemical evidence from rovers, spacecraft and meteorites

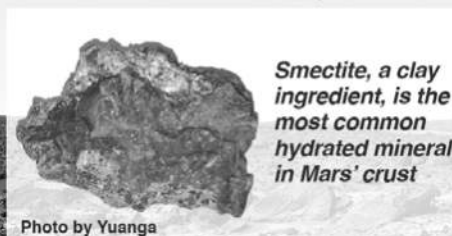
Loss to space when sunlight broke down water vapor into hydrogen and oxygen; the hydrogen escaped



1 Ancient water was equivalent to 100 to 1,500 meters deep over the whole planet

2 Mars dried out between 3.7 and 4.1 billion years ago, losing as much as 95% of its surface water

3 Current dryness was reached about 3 billion years ago



Source: E.L. Scheller and E.L. Ehlmann of California Institute of Technology; Science magazine; Graphics: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune-News Service



# Life & Style

## Publisher pulls Philip Roth bio, cuts ties with author

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The publisher of a highly anticipated and widely discussed biography of Philip Roth is pulling the book and cutting ties with author Blake Bailey, who faces multiple allegations of sexual harassment and assault. W.W. Norton and Company previously released Bailey's memoir "The Splendid Things We Planned."

"Norton is permanently putting out of print our editions of 'Philip Roth: The Biography' and 'The Splendid Things We Planned,' Blake Bailey's 2014 memoir," the publisher announced Tuesday. "Mr. Bailey will be free to seek publication elsewhere if he chooses. In addition, Norton will make a donation in the amount of the book advance for 'Philip

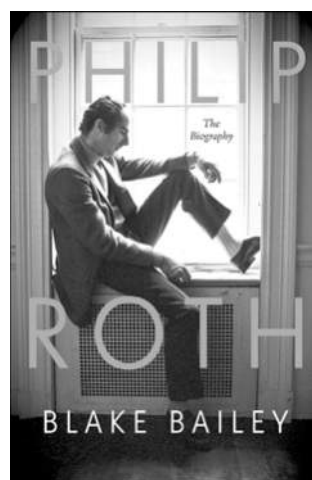
Roth: The Biography' to organizations that fight against sexual assault or harassment and work to protect survivors."

The stunning decision follows reports last week from The New York Times, The New Orleans Times-Picayune and The Associated Press among others that Bailey, who in the 1990s taught eighth grade English in New Orleans, had behaved inappropriately with students and later sought sexual relationships. Two former students and a publishing executive have alleged that he assaulted them. Bailey was quickly dropped by his literary agency, the Story Factory, and Norton announced last week it would pause publication and publicity as it re-

viewed allegations.

Norton has acknowledged being contacted, anonymously, by a woman in 2018 who alleged that Bailey had assaulted her three years earlier. The publisher never responded directly to the email, sent by Bloomsbury sales and marketing vice president Valentina Rice, and instead forwarded it to Bailey. Rice first went public with her allegations last week in The New York Times and confirmed her account with the AP.

The alleged assault took place at the home of Times book critic Dwight Garner, who was informed by Rice soon after it happened and, at Rice's request, did not until recently tell anyone at the paper. The Times had covered Bailey's book extensively, including a long profile of Bailey that ran in its Sunday magazine. Garner did not review



W.W. NORTON VIA AP  
This cover image released by W.W. Norton shows "Philip Roth: The Biography," by Blake Bailey.

the Roth biography.

"Our critic acted appropriately and ethically by honoring the wishes of his friend, Ms. Rice, who confided in him in 2015 and asked him not to share the allegation," a Times spokesperson told the AP. "And it was at Ms. Rice's request that Dwight spoke with The Times."

Bailey, whose Roth book came out in early April, has

denied any wrongdoing. His attorney, Billy Gibbens, condemned Norton, while noting that "Philip Roth" is still being sold overseas.

"Norton made the drastic, unilateral decision to take Mr. Bailey's books out of print, based on the false and unsubstantiated allegations against him, without undertaking any investigation or offering Mr. Bailey the opportunity to refute the allegations," he said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press. "Mr. Bailey's European publishers wisely have not taken such a rash course of action, and Norton's knee-jerk reaction is troubling and unwarranted."

The Roth biography may also remain available in the

U.S. as an audiobook, which was released by a separate company, Recorded Books Inc. The audio publisher did not immediately respond to a request from the AP about the book's status.

Few literary biographies had been so awaited. Bailey, known previously for his acclaimed biographies of authors John Cheever and Richard Yates, had worked on the Roth book since 2012, had extensive access to the author's papers and to Roth, who died in 2018. "Philip Roth" reached the New York Times bestseller list and reviews have been mostly positive, though some critics found him too indulgent of Roth and how he treated women. Debates over the relevance of an author's private behavior to his work, which Roth also confronted in his lifetime, now extend to Bailey.

## Leslie Jones to host the MTV Movie & TV Awards next month

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Comedian-actor Leslie Jones will take the stage as host of the MTV Movie & TV Awards next month.

The network announced Wednesday that Jones will host the awards, which will air live on May 16 from Los Angeles. The awards show celebrates the best moments in movies and television over the past year.

The Emmy-nominated Leslie is currently the host and executive producer of ABC's "Supermarket Sweep" and appeared in "Coming 2 America," which is streaming on Amazon Prime. She also host-



Jones

ed the BET Awards in 2017.

Previous Movie & TV Awards hosts include Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Tiffany Haddish, Kevin Hart and Adam DeVine.

Last week, MTV announced that Disney Plus series "WandaVision" leads the awards with five nominations. Netflix's "Emily in Paris" and Amazon's "The Boys" each scored four nominations.

A day after the Movie & TV Awards, MTV will air the inaugural Movie & TV Awards: UNSCRIPTED on May 17. The show will recognize the best moments in reality television.

## Celebs like Dolly and Bruce raid closets for charity auction

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Christine Baranski wants your help cleaning out her closet.

The Emmy- and Tony-winning actor is donating three custom-made Bob Mackie gowns for an online charity auction on Wednesday and she's tapped a starry group of A-listers to follow her lead with hundreds of items.

The eye-popping haul includes a Wolverine jacket from Hugh Jackman's closet, a banjo signed by Steve Martin, boots, jeans and a T-shirt from Bruce Springsteen and a dress from Dolly Parton that comes with its own mannequin. A portion of proceeds

from every item sold will benefit The Actors Fund.

"Those of us lucky enough to have had successful careers are well aware of how badly our performing arts community has been hit," says Baranski. "It's a great way and it's a fun way to help."

The gowns she's donated were ones she wore for appearances at the Golden Globes, Emmys and Kennedy Center Honors in the 1990s. Each is very glam—she calls them "over the top"—and her daughters aren't interested in wearing any.

"I have a feeling whoever bids on it will do it hopefully

with a feeling of affection and maybe that I've given them some joy. That would be nice," she says.

The slate available at Doyle Auctioneers & Appraisers includes a key prop from the worldwide smash musical "The Phantom of the Opera," a Burberry trench coat and a pair of Swarovski encrusted shoes from Cher and signed posters of "All in the Family" signed by Norman Lear.

Baranski helped organize the event and worked to get many of the items, writing personal emails to each celebrity. She spent the first weeks of the pandemic cleaning her

closet and realized it could help others.

"As I'm coming out of my closet, I thought, 'Gosh, there's probably a lot of actresses like myself who might be doing this, purging themselves of stuff,'" she says. "Wouldn't it be a great thing for an auction?"

Baranski reached out to producer Lorne Michael of "Saturday Night Live" fame to connect with writer and actor Tina Fey and managed to also get an "SNL" haul, including RuPaul's opening monologue outfit and the costume Timothee Chalamet wore when he played Harry Styles.

## Dating experience suffers in sex-obsessed culture

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 48-year-old woman, divorced for 10 years. During that time, I have been in two serious relationships. I'm no prude, but it seems like everyone I date, and who my friends and I talk to, and articles I see are all about sex, having sex, rushing to sex. It's like there's no emphasis on actually getting to know a person anymore.

I'd like to believe that sex is something people who are already emotionally intimate can share. But by the third date, sex is not only expected but considered "normal." When I say that it's too soon for me, I'm not called back for another date. If I do go forward with sex, I feel compromised and cheapened when the "relationship" ends. These men didn't take the time to actually know ME.

Please understand. I'm mature enough to handle this, but I'm deterred from dating because of it. Are there any men out there who want a connection that isn't just physical?

NOT CONNECTING IN MISSOURI

**DEAR NOT CONNECTING:** Yes, there are. But in our hookup culture, it may take time to find them. I agree that we live in a sex-obsessed society, as we are constantly reminded in print, television, film and online media. Many men in your age group avoid emotional intimacy because they have been divorced and don't want to quickly jump

back into a committed relationship.

**It's possible you might have better luck if you join activity groups in which the members have common interests besides running right off to the bedroom. You should never allow yourself to be coerced into doing anything you don't feel ready for. Unlike what some people may believe, sex does not automatically go with the dinner.**

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have been together for 10 years and were legally married a year ago. Our wedding was last-minute because my mother asked us to move the date up and make it happen fast. We obliged because she was very sick at the time, and we put the wedding together in nine days. The ceremony was beautiful. My mother passed away days later. It is obvious to me now that she knew she was terminal; however, I did not.

Since the date of her death is so close to our anniversary, it's a very emotional and hard time for me. I would prefer to celebrate on a different day, perhaps the anniversary of our first date. My husband tells me that while he understands it's hard for me, the date of our legal ceremony is important to him and worthy of celebration. I just don't feel much like celebrating. Although I know it's not fair to him, all I want to do is mourn the loss of my mother. How should I handle this?

BITTERSWEET MEMORIES IN FLORIDA

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



**DEAR BITTERSWEET:** A compromise is in order. Explain again to your husband that because you lost your mother only a year ago, and this will be the first anniversary after her death, you would prefer to either forgo a celebration this year or celebrate on a different date. Assure him that your sadness will lessen eventually, and when it does, you will be fine celebrating your wedding anniversary with him in the future.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby -- Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

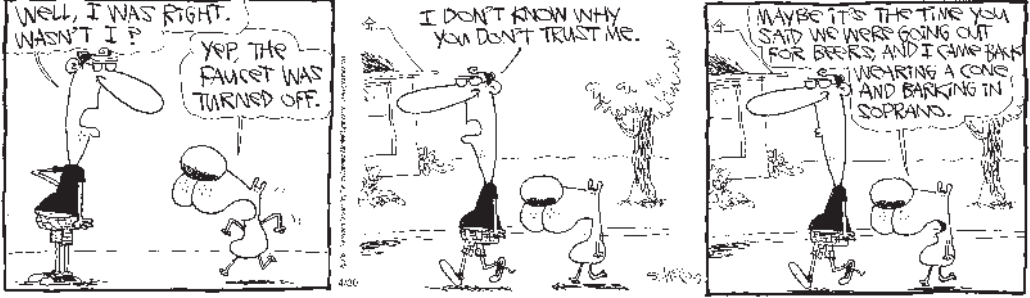


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Napkin's place  
4 Flavor enhancer, for short  
7 Glazier's sheets  
12 Nabokov novel  
13 Hearing thing  
14 "Tiny Alice" playwright  
15 Derek and Diddley  
16 Deficiency  
18 Scrap  
19 Dutch capital, with "The"  
20 Peruse  
22 Blog feed  
23 Innocent one  
27 Chef Garten  
29 "Catch-22" author  
31 Maxim  
34 Michelangelo work  
35 Setting  
37 — Juan

**DOWN**

1 Hard work  
2 Worship  
3 Trattoria  
4 Screen material  
5 African desert  
6 Pirates' potables  
7 Canape spread  
8 TV alien  
9 Cagers' gp.  
10 Sushi fish  
11 French salt  
17 Hurry  
21 Finger or toe  
23 Russian pancakes  
24 Hearty quaff  
25 Wager  
26 Historic time  
28 Born abroad?  
30 Ecol.  
31 Soul, to  
32 Carried out  
33 "Love Story" actress  
36 "Oops!"  
37 Gawked  
40 Stylish wrap  
42 Travel papers  
43 Declares  
44 Guitar parts  
45 Despot  
46 Classic Fords  
48 Reunion gp.  
49 Chowdown  
50 D-Day vessel  
51 Director Ang

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 4-30**

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Kunal Nayyar, 40; Dianna Agron, 35; Kirsten Dunst, 39; Johnny Galecki, 46.

**Happy Birthday:** Stick to basics. Focus on building assets and protecting what you've worked so hard to achieve. Leave nothing to chance and take measures to ensure you have all your documents in order and are fully prepared to take advantage of any opportunity that comes your way. Consider what makes you have the best chance at fulfilling your dreams. Your numbers are 4, 10, 19, 22, 28, 39, 48.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't be fooled by what someone says or does. Be direct and verify the information offered before you get involved in a new venture. Draw on those you know you can count on for insight. Keep your circle small; cut out meddlers. ★★★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Refuse to let anyone interfere with your plans. Work alone and concentrate on your objective. Taking on too much or making unrealistic promises will leave you in a vulnerable position. Put your energy where it counts and do things your way. ★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Don't overanalyze situations. Take a positive attitude and dismiss those who meddle and offer a negative attitude. Be the bright light in the room who lifts everyone's spirits, and you'll overcome adversity and encourage personal growth and peace of mind. ★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Draw on the experience others have to offer. Revisit ideas and collaborate with people

you enjoy being around. Partner with people who provide a unique look at life, and you'll discover how you can use your skills to advance. Romance is in the stars. ★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You'll be drawn to partnerships, shared expenses and change, but before you make promises, consider if a joint venture is in your best interest. Your strength is in your ability to lead, not to share. Consider doing your own thing. ★★★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Keep life simple, be open and honest, and avoid those who overreact and aren't reliable. Moderation coupled with hard work and using your attributes to reach your goals will be your ticket to success. Put your energy where it counts. ★★★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Anger isn't the answer. Don't let anyone goad you into a fight or push you in the wrong direction. Focus on what you have to offer and how best to use your skills to get ahead. Avoid joint ventures and health risks. ★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Put more thought into partnerships and people who bring out the best in you. Consider your living status and arrangement, then look for a way to improve your surroundings to suit your needs. Spiritual growth and self-improvements are favored. ★★★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Weigh the pros and cons before you jeopardize your position, reputation or relationship with a friend, colleague or relative. Don't expect everyone to be honest with you.

**EUGENIA LAST**  
THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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Gullibility will put you in a vulnerable position. Proceed with caution. ★★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** An opportunity will grab your attention. Consider what's expected of you before you agree to something you may be able to do independently. Focus on home and family. Consider changes that will make your life easier, not more stressful. ★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** An offer will interest you. Put everything in perspective before you make a move. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something you won't be able to maintain. Use your intelligence and charm to navigate your way to a workable solution. ★★★★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** An emotional situation will be deceiving. Talk to someone who can shed light on what's happening. Consider your options, then do the research necessary to make a wise move. Declutter your personal space to ease stress. ★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are ambitious, persistent and astute. You are intense and strong-willed. Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. Focus and you'll reach your goals. Aim high; start new projects. Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

**SUDOKU**

**Conceptis Sudoku** By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's Answer**

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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**WONDERWORD** By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

**'NOMADLAND' (FILM)** Solution: 11 letters

I D N R I A H T A R T S D H N  
O N C Y A M A D N I L L E C D  
D A V I D D O S E L O A R A  
E M H E S W S L E C D B A O  
S R O Z N A G W E C E N T E R  
E O S P E G B N A L N S P S E  
R D C I R A U O L T R O N E A S N  
T C I R B U L N H U K N E R A D  
R M T K R E G H G D I I N F E  
A S A Y A I N E C E E E E E Z  
V D L V N G N I V I V R U S V  
E E E G N I D I R A G U S P O  
L S S S K I L L D N R U T A U  
N A N O Z I R A T E E B T R S  
Y C N E I C I F F U S F L E S

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**Yesterday's Answer: Palm Beach**  
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# Spoelstra gets win No. 600, Heat top Spurs, 116-111



**MIAMI** (AP)—Erik Spoelstra got a milestone win, and it didn't come easily.

Jimmy Butler scored 29 points, Bam Adebayo scored 21 and the Miami Heat went on a 17-0 run in the second half before hanging on late to beat the San Antonio Spurs 116-111 on Wednesday night.

It was the 600th regular-season win for Spoelstra, making him the 27th coach in NBA history to win that many and just the sixth coach to do so with one franchise. He thanked Heat President Pat Riley and managing general partner Micky Arison for the opportunity.

"It is humbling," Spoelstra said. "Obviously, I always think about Pat and Micky for having this incredible opportunity to be able to coach with this franchise. I feel a great responsibility to do it the right way for something they started and created."

The Heat (33-30) remained No. 7 in the Eastern Conference, tied with No. 6 Boston (33-30) and now one game behind No. 5 Atlanta (34-29).

"I know if we win, that takes care of everything," Butler said.

Adebayo added 11 rebounds for Miami, which got 18 points from three players — Kendrick Nunn, plus reserves Goran Dragic and Dewayne Dedmon. Dragic had seven assists, giving him 2,004 in his Miami career and tying him with two-time NBA champion Mario Chalmers for third-most in team history.

Dejounte Murray had 22 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists for the Spurs, who were without starting guard Derrick White, who is expected to miss the rest of the season with a sprained ankle. DeMar DeRozan scored 20 for the Spurs, who got 18 from Lonnie Walker IV, 14 from Keldon Johnson, 13 from Rudy Gay and 11 from Devin Vassell.

The Spurs remained No. 9 in the Western Conference race, squarely in the play-in mix.

"We've just got to continue to get closer, stronger and pull out some more wins," Walker said.

San Antonio led by seven late in the third, but Miami scored the next 17 points — the last two coming to open the fourth — and finished off a two-game season sweep of the Spurs for only the fourth time.

"I love this group," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "They might go through a bad period for three or four or five minutes, but they keep playing. They don't give in and we're just trying to reduce mistakes, get more experience



San Antonio Spurs guard Dejounte Murray (5) drives to the basket as Miami Heat forward Trevor Ariza, left, and guard Kendrick Nunn (25) defend during the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, April 28, 2021, in Miami.

"We had a hard time getting in the paint and finishing," said reserve forward Brandon Clarke, who had eight points. "We had a harder time with our pace."

## 76ers 127, Hawks 83

In Philadelphia, Seth Curry scored 20 points, Tobias Harris and Joel Embiid each added 17 and the Philadelphia 76ers built a big early lead and cruised to a 127-83 victory over the Atlanta Hawks on Wednesday night to clinch an Eastern Conference playoff berth.

Shake Milton and Furkan Korkmaz scored 12 apiece and Tyrese Maxey added 11 for the Sixers, who became the second team in the Eastern Conference to secure a post-season spot.

"Coming into the season, our goal was to win a championship," Embiid said. "There are a lot of steps to get there. But we have everything we need to make it happen."

The Sixers are currently second in the East, a game behind Brooklyn and 2 1/2 games ahead of third-place Milwaukee with 10 games to play. Both the Nets and Bucks were off Wednesday.

## Knicks 113, Bulls 94

In New York, the New York Knicks made sure their loss to Phoenix was just a temporary bump in the road.

Julius Randle scored 34 points and the Knicks beat the Chicago Bulls 113-94 on Wednesday night for their 10th win in 11 games.

RJ Barrett added 22 points as New York bounced back from its loss Monday that snapped a nine-game winning streak. Immanuel Quickley and Reggie Bullock each scored 13 points as the Knicks regained sole possession of fourth place in the Eastern Conference.

"We just enjoy playing with each other," Quickley said. "Everything is clicking. We just want to continue to take the right steps and just try and make a playoff push."

Nikola Vucevic had 26 points and 18 rebounds for Chicago. Lauri Markkanen added 14 points, while Colby White and Garrett Temple each had 12.

The Knicks outscored the Bulls 37-19 in the fourth quarter after leading just 76-75 through three.

for some guys and it's paying off slowly but surely."

## Suns 109, Clippers 101

In Phoenix, Devin Booker was in middle school and starting center Deandre Ayton was 11 years old when the Phoenix Suns were last in the playoffs.

As for point guard Chris Paul? He was an NBA star in those days, just like he was on Wednesday night.

Paul scored 28 points, Booker added 21 and the Suns beat the Los Angeles Clippers 109-101 to secure a spot in the postseason for the first time since 2010.

"We are not satisfied, we're not settling," second-year Suns coach Monty Williams said. "We feel like we're just scratching the surface."

Williams has been the architect of a remarkable turnaround in Arizona. The Suns had a 19-63 record just two seasons ago and had languished near the bottom of the West for years. Now they're a trendy pick to push deep into the summer's playoffs.

## Wizards 116, Lakers 107

In Washington, when the Washington Wizards started 0-5, or when they were in the midst of a COVID-19 outbreak, or when they lost two starters to season-ending injuries, who would have thought they'd find themselves beating the reigning NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers on national TV in late April to sweep the two-game season series?

And who would have thought the Wizards would own a two-game lead for the Eastern Conference's 10th spot and the inside track for a play-in berth with 10 games left in the regular season?

Bradley Beal and Russell Westbrook certainly did not give up on the season, and their performances Wednesday night — Beal's 27 points and Westbrook's league-re-

cord 13th triple-double of the month — lifted the Wizards past the no-LeBron Lakers 116-107, handing Los Angeles its fourth loss in five games.

## Jazz 154, Kings 105

In Sacramento, Calif., like many of his Utah teammates, Matt Thomas felt like he couldn't miss — and he was right. Seven shots, all makes, on the way to 17 points in a mere nine minutes.

"It's awesome," Thomas said. "As a shooter and as a scorer it always feels good when the ball is going in the basket. Tonight was one of those nights where the basket looked pretty big to me."

So much for the idea that the Jazz are easing up in their march to the playoffs.

Bojan Bogdanovic scored 24 points, Utah made 24 3-pointers, and the short-handed Jazz bounced back from consecutive losses and set a franchise scoring record in a 154-105 win over the Sacramento Kings on Wednesday night.

Rudy Gobert had 12 points and 10 rebounds, Jordan Clarkson scored 23 points and Georges Niang scored 19 with five 3s for Utah.

## Celtics 120, Hornets 111

In Boston, Jaylen Brown scored 38 points, Jayson Tatum added 35, and the Boston Celtics rebounded from an embarrassing loss a night earlier with a 120-111 victory over the Charlotte Hornets on Wednesday night.

Brown has reached 30 points in three of his last five games.

"They came in and made it hard for us to be beat tonight," Boston coach Brad Stevens said of his two stars.

The Celtics remained tied with Miami for sixth in the Eastern Conference. The top six teams avoid a seven-through-10 play-in for the playoffs. Boston plays the

Heat at home on May 9 and 11. The Celtics won the only meeting this season.

## Magic 109, Cavaliers 104

In Cleveland, Cole Anthony made the tiebreaking layup with 45 seconds left, and the Orlando Magic squandered a 23-point lead before edging the Cleveland Cavaliers 109-104 on Wednesday night to snap a six-game losing streak.

The Magic went up 86-63 on R.J. Hampton's hoop with 10:42 remaining, but Cleveland responded with a 41-18 run to tie the score at 104 on a 3-pointer by Kevin Love.

Love was held scoreless until the fourth quarter, two days after his on-court tantrum against the Raptors in Tampa, Florida.

Anthony put Orlando in front for good with a tough driving layup, then made a pair of free throws after a Cavaliers turnover to make it 108-104. The rookie from North Carolina scored 12 of his 18 points in the fourth.

"In order to make the right play, I felt like I had to have the ball in my hands, to be honest," Anthony said. "My job as a point guard is to make things happen for my team the best way I can."

## Nuggets 114, Pelicans 112

In Denver, Nikola Jokic swung his right hand down as Zion Williamson was going in for a game-tying, two-handed dunk.

All ball. At least, that was the ruling on the floor.

Known for his offensive heroics, Jokic came up big on the other end by blocking Williamson's shot from behind with 2.2 seconds remaining as the Denver Nuggets held off the New Orleans Pelicans 114-112 Wednesday night.

"He went to dunk and I was going hard just to not let him

score," explained Jokic, who finished with 32 points. "I was aiming for the ball."

Leading by nine points with 52.8 seconds remaining, the Nuggets seemed to have this all sewn up. But they committed one turnover after another and had to withstand a furious rally by the Pelicans, who cut the lead to 114-112 with 9.9 seconds remaining. Then, another Denver turnover.

Williamson was going in for a jam when Jokic slid over to knock the ball away.

Asked about his reaction to the play, Williamson simply said: "They didn't call it. Not much I can do about that. Just got to learn from it."

Pelicans coach Stan Van Gundy said Williamson has never been one to flop or lobby for calls. His brute force, though, may work to his disadvantage.

## Trail Blazers 130, Grizzlies 109

In Memphis, Tenn., CJ McCollum had 26 points and six assists, and Norman Powell added 24 points, helping the Portland Trail Blazers solidify their hold on seventh place in the West with a 130-109 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies on Wednesday night.

Damian Lillard finished with 23 points and Carmelo Anthony scored 18 as Portland moved two games ahead of Memphis and San Antonio, which lost 116-111 at Miami on Wednesday night.

"We (were) definitely ready to play," Anthony said. "You could sense it. You could feel it that we were locked in, and we knew how important this game was for us."

Jonas Valanciunas led Memphis with 19 points, and Dillon Brooks had 18. Jaren Jackson Jr. scored 13 points and Ja Morant added 10 points and eight assists, but was 3 of 11 from the field as the Grizzlies lost their second straight.



# Kershaw's 4th win helps Dodgers beat Reds, stop 3-game skid



**LOS ANGELES**  
(AP) — When the Los Angeles Dodgers badly

needed somebody or something to pull them out of a weeklong slump, Clayton Kershaw did it with cool confidence.

He has been performing these feats regularly for the Dodgers since 2008, and the 33-year-old lefty doesn't look like he'll relinquish the responsibility any time soon.

Kershaw yielded four hits over seven masterful innings, Justin Turner homered and the Dodgers ended their three-game losing streak with an 8-0 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Wednesday.

"It's always a good feeling knowing we've got Kersh on the mound," said Chris Taylor, who had an RBI triple and scored two runs. "It was huge to have him get us out of this funk. He was outstanding."

Kershaw (4-2) racked up eight strikeouts with one walk while never allowing Cincinnati to get a runner to third base in his first win over the Reds since 2016. He won an impressive pitching duel with Sonny Gray (0-2) before his teammates tacked on six runs in the eighth inning.

"We've been scuffling a little bit, and we wanted to end the homestand on a good note," Kershaw said.

Kershaw's brilliance was the biggest reason the Dodgers avoided their first four-game losing streak since 2018, allowing them to finish a 2-5 homestand with a renewed positivity. Los Angeles still leads the NL at 16-9, but the past week underlined weaknesses that will have to be fixed over the next five months.

"He's been a great pitcher for a long time, and he's a stopper," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "He's been the ace. He knew how much we needed this game, so for him to go deep in this game, put up zeros, throw a shutout, was big for our club."

Matt Beaty had a two-run single in the eighth on his 28th birthday as the defending World Series champions broke away late for just their third win in 10 games.

Nick Senzel matched his career high with four hits for the Reds, who wrapped up a 2-4 trip by taking two of three at Chavez Ravine. Senzel got three of Cincinnati's four singles off Kershaw, but the Reds were shut out for the fourth time this season.

"Nick had a great day at the plate, which was great to see, but we just couldn't get anything else going off Kershaw," Cincinnati manager David Bell said. "We've all seen that before."

Gray pitched four-hit ball into the sixth while striking out 11 — the most by any pitcher against the Dodgers this year. Gray yielded four hits and three walks, but left trailing 2-0.

"I know just coming off the last start, he wanted to make a statement, and he did," Reds catcher Tyler Stephenson said. "It was good to see him back to what he can be."

## Cardinals 5, Phillies 3

In St. Louis, Andrew McCutchen returned to the lineup and drove in the



The Los Angeles Dodgers celebrate a win over the Cincinnati Reds during a baseball game Wednesday, April 28, 2021, in Los Angeles.

go-ahead run, helping Philadelphia beat St. Louis after Bryce Harper was hit in the face by a pitch.

Harper left the game in the sixth inning after getting hit in his left cheek on a 96.9 mph fastball from left-handed reliever Génesis Cabrera (0-1).

Cabrera hit the next batter, Didi Gregorius, with a 94 mph fastball. Phillies manager Joe Girardi came out of the dugout to argue with plate umpire Chris Segal and was ejected.

Brandon Kintzler (1-0) threw 1 2/3 innings to get the win in relief. Hector Neris pitched the ninth, picking up his fifth save.

## Giants 7, Rockies 3

In San Francisco, Mike Tauchman had three hits in his first game with San Francisco, Alex Wood struck out nine over six innings and the Giants beat Colorado.

Tauchman, acquired from the Yankees on Tuesday, started in center field and went 3 for 4 with a run and an RBI. A backup in New York's star-studded outfield, the 30-year-old Tauchman is hoping to establish himself as an everyday player.

Wood (3-0) held the Rockies hitless through 5 2/3 innings and won his third consecutive start to begin his Giants career. He allowed two runs, four hits and two walks.

German Marquez (1-2) walked in the first two runs and then allowed Brandon Belt's two-run single.

## Padres 12, Diamondbacks 3

In Phoenix, Manny Machado hit a bases-loaded triple during a six-run fifth inning, Fernando Tatis Jr. and Kim Ha-Seong each had two hits and two RBIs, and San Diego overcame starter Ryan Weathers' early injury in a win over Arizona.

Machado's triple capped a string of seven straight hits for the Padres, who got only one runner as far as second base in the first four innings against Arizona emergency starter Riley Smith (1-1).

Kim and Tatis had RBI singles in the fifth, Kim had his first career two-RBI game and Jake Cronenworth hit a pinch-homer for San Diego, which broke an 11-game

losing streak at Chase Field. Jorge Mateo added a two-run homer in the ninth, his first in the majors.

Weathers, who entered with an 0.59 ERA, was replaced because of left arm soreness after pitching a scoreless first inning. Aaron Northcraft (1-0), the third of eight Padres' pitchers, got his first major league victory.

## Marlins 6, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Jesús Aguilar homered for the fifth time in six games, a tiebreaking three-run shot off Eric Yardley in the fourth.

Sandy Alcantara (1-2) gave up two runs and five hits in seven innings.

Zack Godley (0-1) walked five, threw two wild pitches, committed a balk and hit a batter in an eventful Brewers debut. He was charged with four runs, three earned.

## Twins 10, Indians 2

In Cleveland, Byron Buxton homered on the second pitch from Logan Allen (1-4) and went 5 for 5, Mitch Garver homered twice and the Twins connected six times to end a four-game skid and win for the second time in 10 games.

Buxton's AL-leading eighth homer triggered a three-homer barrage in the first off Allen. Buxton added two doubles, two singles and stole a base while pushing his average to .438.

Josh Donaldson and Jorge Polanco homered as the Twins opened a 4-0 lead after 14 pitches.

J.A. Happ (2-0) allowed two runs and four hits in seven innings.

## Nationals 8, Blue Jays 2

In Dunedin, Fla., Erick Fedde (2-2) allowed one run and two hits in six innings and Josh Harrison hit a three-run homer as Washington won in George Springer's Blue Jays debut.

Harrison got his third homer in 16 at-bats against Steven Matz (4-1), a three-run shot in the fourth that made it 6-0.

Springer, who signed a team-record \$150 million, six-year deal this offseason, went 0 for 4. The World Series MVP when Houston won its first title in 2017 missed time in spring training and the start of the season because of a strained oblique and

later due to a right quadriceps strain.

Trea Turner had four hits for the Nationals.

## Red Sox 1, Mets 0

In New York, Christian Vázquez hit an early RBI double, producing the only run required for the Boston Red Sox to beat Jacob deGrom (2-2).

Nick Pivetta (3-0) and three relievers combined on a two-hitter as the surprising AL East leaders swept a two-game interleague series at Citi Field.

Xander Bogaerts doubled off the left-center fence to open the second inning and one out later, Vázquez drove a shoulder-high 0-2 fastball clocked at 100 mph the other way into the right-center gap.

DeGrom struck out nine and walked one in six innings of three-hit ball. His 0.51 ERA is the best for a Mets pitcher through five starts, and his 59 strikeouts match Nolan Ryan in 1978 for the most in major league history over the first five starts in a season.

Matt Barnes struck out all three batters in the ninth for his sixth save, sealing Boston's first shutout this season.

## Yankees 7, Orioles 0

In Baltimore, Domingo Germán (2-2) won his second straight start allowing three hits in seven innings and combining with Michael King on a four-hitter.

Mike Ford put the Yankees ahead in the second inning with his second home run in 16 at-bats this season, and Gio Urshela made it 5-0 with a three-run homer in the four-run third. Clint Frazier hit his first home run in 69 plate appearances this season.

New York has won five of seven and at 11-13 is two games under .500 for the first time since the Yankees were 5-7.

Dean Kremer (0-2) allowed six runs and 10 hits in 4 1/3 innings.

## Rays 2, Athletics 0

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Tyler Glasnow (3-1) struck out 10 and gave up five hits in seven innings, dealing Oakland its third loss in four games after a 13-game winning streak.

Diego Castillo got two outs for his sixth save.

Mike Zunino hit his fifth homer in the two-run fifth off Cole Irvin (2-3), when Manuel Margot singled in a run.

## Braves 10, Cubs 0

In Atlanta, Marcell Ozuna homered in a four-run first inning, and Huascar Ynoa (2-1) gave up four hits and struck out nine in 5 1/3 innings. Ynoa also hit his first big league home run, helping Atlanta win its third straight.

Chicago was shut out for the second consecutive night and has lost five in a row.

Freddie Freeman had four hits.

Kyle Hendricks (1-3) gave up seven runs and 11 hits in 3 2/3 innings, allowing three home runs as his ERA rose to 7.54. He has allowed 10 homers in 22 2/3 innings this season — seven of the home runs in the first inning.

## Royals 9, Pirates 6

In Pittsburgh, Jorge Soler had two doubles among his three hits and drove in three runs as Kansas City improved to a major league-best 15-8.

Soler's doubles sparked three-run rallies in the first and sixth innings.

Kyle Zimmer (2-0) got the last two outs of the fifth, and Josh Staumont retired four straight batters for third save.

Mitch Keller (1-3) walked five in 2 1/3 innings, allowed four runs and needed 83 pitches to get seven outs.

## Angels 4, Rangers 3

In Arlington, Texas, rookie Chris Rodriguez pitched 3 1/3 shutout innings for the win, and Anthony Rendon and Jose Iglesias hit two-run singles in the first off Dane Dunning (1-1).

Rodriguez (2-0) entered to begin the third inning after Alex Cobb allowed three runs and six hits, including two-out RBI singles by Nate Lowe and Willie Calhoun. The 22-year-old right-hander walked none and allowed only a one-out single to Adolis García, his final batter in the sixth inning.

Four relievers combined for seven innings of scoreless, two-hit relief. Raisel Iglesias pitched a perfect ninth for his fourth save.

## Astros 7, Mariners 5

In Houston, pinch-hitter Jason Castro drew a bases-loaded walk to put Houston in front during an eighth-inning rally past Seattle.

Houston has won six of its last seven and handed Seattle its third straight loss.

The Astros scored four times in the eighth without an extra-base hit. Kyle Tucker and Yuli Gurriel had back-to-back singles against Rafael Montero (2-1) with one out. An error by first baseman Evan White allowed Tucker to score on a fielder's choice, and Aledmys Diaz singled to score Gurriel.

Will Vest came in and walked Castro, and Jose Altuve followed with a sacrifice fly.

Joe Smith (1-1) struck out one in a scoreless eighth. Ryne Stanek worked the ninth for his first save of the season.



# MRA joins island-wide cleanup

## Battle of the NORF tomorrow

The Battle of the NORF 3x3 Basketball Tournament is set to commence tomorrow, May 1, with 20 teams expected to go head to head.

The event, which will be held at the As Matuis Basketball Court on May 1 from 6pm to 10pm, is a 3-on-3 single-elimination tournament that will have 10 teams from each division face off for a chance at the inaugural title.

The event will have a co-

ed 17U division, with a \$40 entrance fee for each team, and a co-ed open division, with a \$50 entrance fee. Each team is allowed a total of five players, max.

The event will also feature a skills challenge with a \$5 entrance fee to join and a 3-point competition with a \$5 entrance fee.

For additional information, feel free to contact Matt Iguel at 785-8304. **(Kimberly B. Esmores)**

## SWIMMERS

From Page 24

a conversion time of 1:01.66. Palacios set the record in the boys 13-14 age group with a 1:03:71 in July 2001.

Parajillaga also made waves in the boys 13-14 200 backstroke with an unofficial conversion time of 2:21.43. His swim unofficially broke Kensuke Kimura's 2:26:35 in October 2010.

Watanabe's 200 breaststroke conversion time of 2:50.39 in the boys 11-12 age group also unofficially beat Kaito Yanai's 2:51:79 set in January 2012.

Aside from the five, coach Kimura is also mighty proud of the rest of the swimmers of Tsunami Saipan.

He said 14-year-old Aoi

Braxton's 50 back and 100 back is getting closer to age group record time. "I think she will be able to break some records in the next time trial."

The Tsunami Saipan coach also gave kudos to Nagisa Litulumar, Kaya Braxton, Sari Barman, and Maria Guererro. "I call 12 years old as the golden age of development. We expect a lot from these four and they have the potential to make up a strong CNMI junior girls relay team in the future."

Kimura also said he expects girls' captain Asaka Litulumar and her younger sister, Shoko, "young star" Maria Batallones, and hard-worker Julia Jinang to one day don the CNMI's colors in the Micronesia Championships and even the Pacific Games.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE					WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division					Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB					
x-Brooklyn	42	20	.677	—	Dallas	34	27	.557	—
x-Philadelphia	41	21	.661	1	Memphis	31	30	.508	3
New York	35	28	.556	7½	San Antonio	31	30	.508	3
Boston	33	30	.524	9½	New Orleans	27	35	.435	7½
Toronto	26	36	.419	16	Houston	15	47	.242	19½
Southeast Division					Northwest Division				
Atlanta	34	29	.540	—	x-Utah	45	17	.726	—
Miami	33	30	.524	1	Denver	41	21	.661	4
Charlotte	30	32	.484	3½	Portland	34	28	.548	11
Washington	28	34	.452	5½	Oklahoma City	21	41	.339	24
Orlando	19	43	.306	14½	Minnesota	19	44	.302	26½
Central Division					Pacific Division				
Milwaukee	38	23	.623	—	x-Phoenix	44	18	.710	—
Indiana	29	32	.475	9	L.A. Clippers	43	21	.672	2
Chicago	26	36	.419	12½	L.A. Lakers	36	26	.581	8
Cleveland	21	41	.339	17½	Golden State	31	31	.500	13
Detroit	19	43	.306	19½	Sacramento	25	37	.403	19
					x-clinched playoff spot				

### MLB STANDINGS

NATIONAL LEAGUE					NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division					East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB					
Boston	16	9	.640	—	Atlanta	12	12	.500	—
Tampa Bay	13	12	.520	3	Philadelphia	12	12	.500	—
Toronto	11	12	.478	4	New York	9	10	.474	½
New York	11	13	.458	4½	Miami	11	13	.458	1
Baltimore	10	14	.417	5½	Washington	9	12	.429	1½
Central Division					Central Division				
Kansas City	15	8	.652	—	Milwaukee	14	10	.583	—
Chicago	12	10	.545	2½	Pittsburgh	12	12	.500	2
Cleveland	11	12	.478	4	St. Louis	12	12	.500	2
Minnesota	8	15	.348	7	Cincinnati	11	13	.458	3
Detroit	8	16	.333	7½	Chicago	10	14	.417	4
West Division					West Division				
Oakland	15	10	.600	—	Los Angeles	16	9	.640	—
Houston	13	11	.542	½	San Francisco	16	9	.640	—
Los Angeles	12	11	.522	2	San Diego	14	12	.538	2½
Seattle	13	12	.520	2	Arizona	12	12	.500	3½
Texas	10	15	.400	5	Colorado	9	15	.375	6½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Marianas Racing Association joined the 2021 Island-wide Cleanup last Saturday.

More than 25 MRA members and officials walked their way from the CowTown Raceway Park to the Marpi Landfill and picked up trash and debris along the way that were either dumped illegally or blown down by storms. The group was able to retrieve a couple of hundred pounds of garbage along the road side and several yards deep into the jungle as well.

MRA president Charles Cepeda commended their

members for spending their morning in Marpi and participating in the cleanup drive.

"We encourage everyone in the CNMI to do their part in keeping our island clean and to put a stop to illegal dumping and littering," Cepeda added.

Cepeda and MRA track marshal and race facilitator Bridget Camacho scheduled the cleanup last week Saturday, which was a perfect time as the next day was the Round 4 of the MRA Point Race Season. Fans and everyone else were welcomed to a nice and clean road and track



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas Racing Association members and officials pick up trash in Marpi in support of last Saturday's 2021 Island-wide Cleanup.

on race day.

After MRA members and officials picked up trash, they returned to Cowtown to pre-

pare and continue work at the track and set up tires and barricades for the new pit area and around the facility. **(PR)**

## SHIRLEY'S

From Page 24

### DIVISION A TanHoldings 2, Paire 1

Meanwhile, TanHoldings remains Division A's top team after besting Paire 1.

TanHoldings' Michiteru Mita and Joshua Waldo landed a goal each to bring the team to victory in the last 30 minutes of the match.

### Kanoa 1, U18 Team B O

Kanoa's John Guiller Canape carried the team to victory after landing the only goal of the game in the first 10 minutes.

### The One 2, Old B Bank 1

The One's Timothy Tawanpiy brought the game to a tie in the 49th minute after teammate Jin Koo Cho scored a goal for the opposite team. However, Old B Bank's Taro Goto broke the tie when he scored in the opposite goal in the 75th minute.

### U18 Team A O, MP United O

Boys National Team A still holds the No. 2 spot in the division standings with a win-loss record of 4-0 with 4 draw matches.

## EAGLES

From Page 24

The Lady Turtles, however, dominated the 14U qualifier with a distance of 3.7m, followed closely by Saipan International School's Irin Chung, DMS' Patty Mendiola, and Saipan Community School's Abbie Kim with similar distances of 3.52m.

Meanwhile in the 14U 800m event, ACS' Peter Peng took the lead with a time of 2:40, but shared the same time as second place Nolan Ngewakl of Tanapag Middle School. SCS' Elijah Ye completed the Top 3 with a time of 2:51.18.

SCS dominated the girls 14U 800m event behind Ab-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kanoa defeated the U18 Men's National Team during their match for Division A of the M-League Spring 2021 season that continued last weekend at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

### DIVISION B Bangladesh FC 5, Women's National Team O

Bangladesh FC hammered the Women's National Team behind Soheal Akanda and Titu Ahmed who landed two goals apiece with contribution from

Mohammed Ariful Hossain who added 1 goal.

### Island Star 2, Matansa 1

Island Star's Feng Yu and Den Deric Ibarra led the way to victory 80 minutes into the match despite Matansa hold-

ing the lead after a goal from Gabriel Arkoh who landed a goal in the 68th minute.

With back-to-back goals from Yu and Ibarra in the 8th and 84th minute respectively, Island Star managed to bring its win-loss record up to 2-6.

bie Kim who completed the qualifier with a time of 3:37, followed by schoolmate Morgan Finco who came in at 3:45. TMS' Destinee Decena made the Top 3 with her time of 3:56.

In the 14U discuss qualifier, SIS took the lead behind Casey Chambers who submitted a distance of 23.60m followed by ChaCha Oceanview Middle School's Manuel Babauta at 22.70m and Luke Lizama at 21.85m.

Also topping the 200m event in the boys 18U division was Bill Li of ACS with a time of 25:58 and Eason Tang less than a minute later who came in at 26:03. Rounding up the Top 3 was Salvatore Gotti of Saipan Southern High School

with a time of 26:44.

The Lady Manta Rays prevailed in the girls 18U 200m qualifier with Casey Cruz who recorded a time of 30:24. She was trailed by Erin Frink of MCS who came in at 30:33 while SIS' Tybacco Mauryzon came in a split second later at 30:82.

In the boys 18U of the 800m, the Turtles continue to prevail with Ray Qi finishing the course the fastest with a time of 2:25, followed by fellow Turtle Abraham Zhu who came in 2:27. MHS' Sildrey Veloria rounded up the Top 3 with a time of 2:29.

Meanwhile in the girls division of the same qualifier, SIS' Tiana Cabrera came in at 2:48, followed by the Eunice Xu of

ACS who submitted a time of 2:51. Coming in just 7 seconds late was Lady Dolphin Asaka Litulumar at 2:58.

Topping the boy 18U long jump was MHS' Craig Padayao with a distance of 5.96m, followed by Kagman High School's Francisco Kumuch with a distance of 5.8m. Lance Sablan made Top 3 with a leap of 5.59.

ACS' Sally Wu topped the girls 18U long jump with a distance of 4.42m, followed by SSSH's Cruz who recorded a distance of 4.31m.

KHS swept the 18U discuss event behind Kumuch and Maria Rasa with Kumuch submitting a distance of 29.65m and Rasa with a distance of 20.90m.





**Spoelstra gets  
win No. 600,  
Heat top Spurs,  
116-111**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

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**24** FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2021

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Swimmers 'unofficially' break 5 records



By **MARK RABAGO**  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Tsunami Saipan mainstays Juhn Tenorio, Jinnosuke Suzuki, Isaiah Aleksenko, Kean Pajarillaga, and Kouki Watanabe.

No competition, no problem as Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan swimmers have continued to train and unofficially broke records while training at a private pool with the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi still in mothballs.

Coach Hiro Kimura said the last official meet CNMI swimmers competed in was on Jan. 4, 2020 in Guam and with no

Olympic-size swimming pool to test their mettle, Tsunami Saipan had to improvise and conduct time trials at the private pool they currently are training in.

"We can hold time trials there anytime we want, but it's so hard for swimmers to understand how faster we are because the pool size is different from competition pools like the one Marpi or in Guam. Therefore, we calculated and converted every result time at the private pool for a 50m competition pool. As a result of the conversion, we marked a lot of fast times to unofficially break several CNMI records," he said.

Kimura said their records

show that five of his wards, namely Juhn

**Tsunami SAIPAN**

1:04:40 set in July 2019.

Tenorio, Jinnosuke Suzuki, Isaiah Aleksenko, Kean Pajarillaga, and Kouki Watanabe, have unofficially broken CNMI age group records. He, however, emphasized that these times won't be entered in the record books and are unofficial as the pool is not standard.

Tenorio swam the 100m back in a conversion time of 1:00.87 to unofficially break his own national record of

Suzuki also unofficially broke Kai Staal's 15-16 age group record in the 200 freestyle after a conversion time of 2:01.98. Staal swam the event in 2:02.98 in May 2009.

Aleksenko unofficially eclipsed Dean Palacios' nearly 20-year record in the 100 fly butterfly when he registered

**See SWIMMERS on  
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The middle school and high school qualifiers for the 2021 Public School System All Schools Track and Field Championship continued last Tuesday at the Oleai Track and Field.

## Shirley's keeps No. 1 ranking in Division B

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
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REPORTER

Shirley's Football Club is holding on tight to its No. 1 ranking in Division B with a win-loss record of 6-2 over halfway through the M-League Spring 2021 season.

With just six games remaining, Shirley's still runs the risk of losing its current standing and its chance at an outright spot in the finals, with just a one-win advantage over Bangladesh FC after triumphing in its match last weekend. Bangladesh FC holds a win-loss record of 5-2 with one draw. Also vying for an automatic seat to the finals is Saipan United with a win-loss record of 5-3.

In its match against Saipan United, Shirley's edged its foe with a 4-2 victory behind Dhiraj Chhetri, Guang

Zhi Jin, Jack Phan, and Ho Jin Woo who made one goal apiece.

Chhetri took the lead for Shirley's with a goal in the 7th minute followed by a

goal from Jin to put Shirley's in the lead.

Saipan United's Ichiro Borja brought the game to a 2-2 tie in the 25th minute but Phan broke that tie with

his goal in the 44th minute. Shirley's Woo solidified its win in the final 8 minutes of the match.

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## Eagles soar through 200m qualifier

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
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REPORTER

Grace Christian Academy Eagles swept the 200m qualifiers of the 2021 Public School System All Schools Track and Field Championship in both divisions of the 14U category at the Oleai Track and Field last Tuesday.

The 14U Eagles eased past foes in the boys 200m event behind Jasper Hall, who recorded a time of 26:79; followed by fellow Eagle Joseph Pangelinan, who came in at 27:95. Completing the Top 3 was Franz Abadilla of DanDan Middle School who

finished at 28:29.

The 14U Lady Eagles refused to be outshone with Ella Hall topping the 200m qualifier with a time of 31:80 and Fiona Reagan who came in at 32:55. Rounding up the Top 3 was Mia Ysabella Abuan who came in at 32:74.

The Eagles also prevailed in the boys 14U long jump qualifier behind Hall with a distance of 5.03m. At second place was DMS' Abadilla with a jump of 5m. GCA's Pangelinan landed the third-place spot with a distance of 4.80m.

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